

Convocation for the Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of Corporate Express N.V.

to be held at the offices of Corporate Express N.V. in Amsterdam, Hoogoorddreef 62 on Monday 29 September 2008 at 10 a.m.

The agenda comprises the following items:

1. Opening
2. Proposal to approve the sale and transfer of the North American companies of the Corporate Express group to Staples, Inc.
3. Any other business.

The agenda and explanatory notes are available on the website of the Company (www.cexpgroup.com) and at the Company's offices in Amsterdam, as well as at ABN AMRO Bank Servicedesk Beleggen ("ABN AMRO Servicedesk") phone +31 (0)76 579 94 55 or by e-mail: servicedesk.beleggen@nl.abnamro.com.

Important dates 2008:

Meeting	Extraordinary General Meeting 29 September 2008, 10 a.m.
Notice to shareholders	12 September 2008
Record Date	16 September 2008
End Registration Period Last day to register and to send in powers of attorney / voting instructions	24 September 2008 at 5 p.m. Please note: powers of attorney and/or voting instructions have to be received by ABN AMRO Servicedesk respectively by the Board of Directors

Record date

The Executive Board has determined that those who are registered on 16 September 2008 ("the Record Date") in one of the (sub)registers and have given notice in accordance with the following, will have the right to attend and to vote at this meeting.

The sub-registers designated for holders of ordinary shares and of depositary receipts of preference shares A in bearer form are administered by the banks and brokers which are affiliated (*aangesloten instellingen*) with Euroclear Nederland ("Euroclear"), and indicate who is entitled to such shares at the Record Date.

The sub-registers designated for holders of registered shares and depositary receipts of preference shares A in registered form, is the share register respectively register of depositary receipts of preference shares A of Corporate Express NV.

Notification

Holders of bearer shares who wish to attend the Meeting in person or appoint a representative, must notify ABN AMRO Servicedesk via the affiliated institution (*aangesloten instelling*) in whose administration their shares are registered. Affiliated institutions must submit to ABN AMRO Servicedesk by 24 September 2008 at 5 p.m. at the latest, for each shareholder concerned a written statement including the number of shares notified for registration and held by that shareholder at the Record Date.

At the request of the shareholder, the affiliated institution will send a confirmation to the shareholder of the number of shares registered for the Meeting.

ABN AMRO Servicedesk will send the number of shares registered per shareholder for this Meeting to Corporate Express. The shareholder receives a registration certificate. He (or his proxy holder) can be requested at the registration desk of the meeting to show a valid identification document. After checking this with the registration list, the shareholder (or his proxy holder) will be admitted to the Meeting.

For **holders of depositary receipts in bearer form** the aforementioned is applicable. However, they will receive a power of attorney from the board of the *Stichting Administratiekantoor van Preferente aandelen A* (“the Trust Office”) to vote at the meeting. At the Meeting on 29 September 2008, one vote can be exercised for each (depositary receipt of) preference share A.

A holder of depositary receipts who, taking into account the above, has given timely notification for the Meeting, will be deemed to have requested a power of attorney. The power of attorney will be issued to him (or his representative) before the start of the Meeting by his (or his representative's) co-signing the power of attorney for acceptance.

Power of attorney and voting instructions

Holders of ordinary shares or depositary receipts in bearer form who will not be attending the Meeting in person may give a proxy to a third party, to the Company Secretary or to the Trust Office to vote on their behalf. In order to give proxy and voting instructions, the shareholder / depositary receipt holder (a) must have registered his shares as mentioned above and (b) must have delivered the completed and executed proxy / voting form to ABN AMRO Servicedesk respectively to the Board of Directors on 24 September 2008 at 5 p.m. at the latest.

A power of attorney and voting instructions form is available on the website of the Company or via ABN AMRO Servicedesk.

Holders of ordinary shares or depositary receipts of preference share A in registered form.

Holders of registered shares or depositary receipts in registered form are required to give notification for the Meeting and if desired give proxy to another person in the way explained in the convocation letter sent to them by the Company.

Executive Board
Amsterdam, 12 september 2008