# QKL Stores Inc. Announces Second Quarter 2011 Financial Results

-- 2Q11 Revenue Increased 26.3% to \$83.5 million from \$66.1 million in 2Q10---- 2Q11 Gross Profit Increased 26.1% to \$14.6 million from \$11.6 million in 2Q10 –

**Daqing, China, August 15, 2011** – QKL Stores Inc. (the "Company") (Nasdaq: QKLS), a leading regional supermarket chain in Northeastern China, today announced its financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2011.

Mr. Zhuangyi Wang, Chairman and CEO, said, "The second quarter was a period in which we focused on opening more of our larger concept stores and improving efficiency in our business. The performance of our existing stores opened for more than a year continued to show stable gross profit margin of 17.8% which helps support the ramp up period of our newer stores, which typically take longer to ramp to reach profitability. In the last 12 months, we have opened 18 new stores, many of which are located in remote areas and require higher marketing expenses to attract large numbers of customers."

"We plan to open 2-3 additional stores this year. Many of the new stores we open in the future will be in the Liaoning Province where we have stronger relationships with local vendors and the cost of goods is slightly lower than the other two provinces (Heilongjiang and Jilin) in which we operate."

"As our store opening plan modifies from the first half of the year, we believe that preliminary store opening expenses will decrease in the coming quarters as our total store sales rise, labor & utility costs stabilize and new store marketing expenses ease. For the remaining two quarters of 2011, we believe our gross margin will remain stable in the 17%-18% range, operating expenses as a percent of total revenue will move back into the 14%-15% range and we'll return to profitability with net income as a percent of total revenue in the 2%-3% range."

"As QKL expands its market presence in northeast China, we are uniquely positioned against our local competitors through our large product offering, strong supplier relationships, efficient distribution network and state-of-the-art IT system. We are comfortable with our opportunities in the second half of the year and believe we'll see an improvement in operating expenses and profit growth from the current quarter."

## Second Quarter 2011 Financial Results

Revenue in the second quarter of 2011 increased 26.3% to \$83.5 million from \$66.1 million in the second quarter of 2010. Revenue performance reflected the growth of 33 comparable stores, which are stores that have been open for at least one year before the beginning of the comparison period, or by April 1, 2010, as well as sales from the opening of 18 new stores since April 1, 2010. Same-store sales were approximately \$67.2 million in the second quarter of 2011, an increase of 7.6% from \$62.5 million in the second quarter of 2010. The 18 new stores opened since April 1, 2010 generated approximately

\$14.1 million in the second quarter of 2011.

Gross profit increased 26.1% year-over-year to \$14.6 million, compared to \$11.6 million in the prior year period. Gross margin for the second quarter of 2011 remained flat at 17.5%. The increase in gross profit was primarily attributable to the increase in net sales compared to the second quarter of 2010.

Operating expenses increased 66.1% to \$14.7 million compared to \$8.8 million in the prior year period. This was primarily a result of additional salary, rent and utility expenses, the hiring of more employees, and other operating costs related to the Company's increased store count over the past year as well as from pre-opening expenses from five new stores opened in the second quarter of 2011.

The Company reported a net loss of approximately \$(32,867), or \$(0.001) per diluted share, compared with net income of \$2.1 million, or \$0.05 per diluted share, for the same period in 2010. This decrease was due to higher selling expenses related to new stores opening and higher staff costs in the second quarter of 2011.

As of June 30, 2011, the Company had \$36.0 million in unrestricted cash, compared to \$17.5 million as of December 31, 2010 and no debt or bank loans.

As of June 30, 2011, the Company operated 51 stores totaling 275,000 sq. meters compared to 37 stores totaling 165,000 sq. meters in the prior year period. The Company opened 5 new store locations in the second quarter of 2011.

The number of weighted average shares outstanding used in the computation of diluted EPS (excluding the fair value of the warrants) decreased 25.3% to 29.8 million in the second quarter 2011 from 39.9 million in the second quarter 2010. The decrease is due to the fact that 7.3 million preferred stocks were not included in the computation of diluted net earnings per share as their effects would have been anti-dilutive since the Company had a net loss in the second quarter of 2011.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the six month ended June 30, 2011 and 2010 was \$26.0 million and \$5.3 million, respectively. The increase in cash provided by operating activities for the six month ended June 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 primarily reflects net cash inflow caused by the decrease of inventories and decrease of other receivables. The decrease of inventories was caused by reducing the inventory on hand after the peak Chinese New Year season. The decrease of other receivables is largely attributable to the repayment of money from vendors.

## **Conference Call**

The Company will conduct a conference call to discuss its second quarter 2011 results on Monday, August 15, 2011 at 9:00 am ET. Listeners may access the call by dialing #1-719-457-2506. To listen to the live webcast of the event, please go to http://www.viavid.net. Listeners may access the call replay, which will be available through August 22, by dialing # 1-858-384-5517; conference ID: 9495247.

## About QKL Stores Inc.:

Based in Daqing, China, QKL Stores, Inc. is a leading regional supermarket chain company operating in Northeastern China. QKL Stores sells a broad selection of merchandise, including groceries, fresh food, and non-food items, through its retail supermarkets, hypermarkets and department stores; the company also has its own distribution centers that service its supermarkets. For more information, please access the Company's website at: <a href="http://www.gklstoresinc.com">www.gklstoresinc.com</a>.

## Safe Harbor Statement

Certain statements in this release and other written or oral statements made by or on behalf of the Company are "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Statements regarding future events and developments and our future performance, as well as management's expectations, beliefs, plans, estimates or projections relating to the future, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of these laws. The forward looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties including market acceptance of the Company's services and projects and the Company's continued access to capital and other risks and uncertainties. The actual results the Company achieves may differ materially from those contemplated by any forward-looking statements due to such risks and uncertainties. These statements are based on our current expectations and speak only as of the date of such statements.

#### **Contact Information**

QKL Stores, Inc.

In China: Mike Li, Investor Relations +86-459-460-7987 ICR, Inc.

In U.S.: Bill Zima +1-203-682-8233

# QKL STORES INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# **Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets**

		June 30, 2011 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2010
ASSETS		(	
Cash	\$	36,032,802	\$ 17,460,034
Restricted cash		35,245	77,205
Accounts receivable		782,281	167,509
Inventories		37,549,843	44,467,265
Other receivables		17,301,351	28,236,397
Prepaid expenses		5,211,102	5,088,825
Advances to suppliers		2,590,634	3,740,327
Deferred income tax assets		689,719	508,617
Total current assets		100,192,977	99,746,179
Property, plant and equipment, net		39,783,641	24,792,149
Land use rights, net		761,134	748,533
Goodwill		44,866,814	43,863,929
Other assets		466,816	467,927
Total assets	\$	186,071,382	\$ 169,618,717
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Accounts payable	\$	36,237,786	\$ 38,944,917
Cash card and coupon liabilities		12,256,490	10,814,546
Customer deposits received		1,218,321	1,495,059
Accrued expenses and other payables		23,759,004	9,883,282
Income taxes payable		1,135,785	2,365,931
Total current liabilities		74,607,386	63,503,735
Total liabilities		74,607,386	63,503,735
Shareholders' equity			
Common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, authorized 100,000,000 shares, issued and outstanding 30,269,590 and 29,743,811 shares at June 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively Series A convertible preferred stock, par value \$0.01, authorized 10,000,000		30,270	29,744
shares, issued and outstanding 6,769,549 and 7,295,328 at June 30,2011 and			
December 31, 2010, respectively		67,695	72,953
Additional paid-in capital		91,147,667	90,710,619
Retained earnings – appropriated		6,012,675	6,012,675
Retained earnings		4,649,112	2,094,850
Accumulated other comprehensive income	_	9,556,577	7,194,141
Total shareholders' equity		111,463,996	106,114,982
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	186,071,382	<u>\$ 169,618,717</u>

# QKL STORES INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# **Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income**

	(Unaudited) Three Months Ended June		(Unaudited)		
	30	0,	Six Months Ended June 30,		
	2011	2010	2011	2010	
Net sales	\$ 83,453,372	\$ 66,099,594	\$184,764,468	\$147,705,707	
Cost of sales	68,828,405	54,504,918	152,044,021	121,584,917	
Gross profit	14,624,967	11,594,676	32,720,447	26,120,790	
Operating expenses:					
Selling expenses	12,749,493	7,117,955	25,286,696	13,983,993	
General and administrative expenses	1,946,466	1,731,613	4,150,083	3,898,871	
Total operating expenses	14,695,959	8,849,568	29,436,779	17,882,864	
Income from operations	(70,992)	2,745,108	3,283,668	8,237,926	
	(70,772)	2,745,100	3,203,000	0,237,920	
Non-operating income (expense):					
(Increase) decrease in fair value of warrants	-	-	-	7,801,649	
Interest income	163,762	195,810	453,385	344,928	
Interest expense	-	(8,201)	(31,100)	(10,381)	
Total non-operating income (loss)	163,762	187,609	422,285	8,136,196	
Income (loss) before income taxes	92,770	2,932,717	3,705,953	16,374,122	
Income taxes	125,637	820,348	1,151,691	2,378,902	
Net income (loss)	\$ (32,867)	\$ 2,112,369	\$ 2,554,262	\$ 13,995,220	
Comprehensive income statement:					
Net income (loss)	\$ (32,867)	\$ 2,112,369	\$ 2,554,262	\$ 13,995,220	
Foreign currency translation adjustment	1,784,806	173,612	2,362,436	45,485	
Comprehensive income	\$ 1,751,939	\$ 2,285,981	\$ 4,916,698	\$ 14,040,705	
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:					
Basic	29,755,085	29,667,924	29,771,783	29,613,671	
Diluted	29,755,085	39,859,213	37,039,139	40,332,126	
Earnings per share:					
Basic	\$ (0.001)	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.47	
Diluted	\$ (0.001)		\$ 0.07	\$ 0.35	

# QKL STORES INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows** 

	(Unaudited) Six Months Ended June 30,		
	2011	2010	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Net income	\$ 2.554.262	\$ 13,995,220	
Depreciation – property, plant and equipment	3,566,227	2,309,342	
Amortization	15,249		
Share-based compensation	432,316	591,814	
Deferred income tax	(169,473)	(256,827)	
Change in fair value of warrants		(7,801,649)	
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	•	(7,001,019)	
Accounts receivable	(610,942)	33,031	
Inventories	7,934,102	5,706,734	
Other receivables	11,580,644	(37,080)	
Prepaid expenses	(5,164)	(272,240)	
Advances to suppliers	(598,759)	401,054	
Accounts payable	(3,597,550)	(6,394,315)	
Cash card and coupon liabilities	1,194,685	(169,382)	
Customer deposits received	(310,921)	(3,172,881)	
Accrued expenses and other payables	5,272,840	187,656	
Income taxes payable	(1,284,241)	152,112	
Net cash provided by operating activities	25,973,275	5,286,251	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(7,775,089)	(2,831,895)	
Refund of office building purchase payment	(7,775,009)	11,015,480	
Decrease of restricted cash	41,960	55,765	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(7,733,129)	8,239,350	
Effect of foreign currency translation	332,622	(13,352)	
Net increase in cash	18,572,768	13,512,249	
Cash – beginning of period	17,460,034	45,912,798	
Cash – end of period	\$ 36,032,802	\$ 59,425,047	
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information: Interest received	\$ 220,968	\$ 344,928	
Interest paid	\$ 31,100	<u>\$ 10,381</u>	
Income taxes paid	\$ 2,562,939	\$ 2,495,550	