Cognex Increases Quarterly Cash Dividend

NATICK, MA, May 5, 2010 — Cognex Corporation (NASDAQ: CGNX) announced today that the company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of $0.06 per share; this represents an increase of $0.01 per share, or 20%, over the $0.05 per share dividend paid in the prior quarter.

"The dividend increase announced today demonstrates the confidence that the Board of Directors has in Cognex's financial strength and in our ability to continue to generate profitable growth for the remainder of the year," said Dr. Robert J. Shillman, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Cognex. "We decreased our dividend in Q2 of 2009 when times were tough, and we are happy to increase it in good times like these so that we can share our success in a tangible way with our shareholders."

The dividend announced today is payable on June 18, 2010, to all shareholders of record at the close of business on June 4, 2010. Cognex declared its first dividend in the third quarter of 2003, and to date it has paid $96 million in dividends to its shareholders.

About Cognex Corporation

Cognex Corporation designs, develops, manufactures and markets machine vision sensors and systems, or devices that can "see." Cognex vision sensors and systems are used in factories around the world where they guide, inspect, gauge, identify and assure the quality of a wide range of items during the manufacturing process. Cognex is the world's leader in the machine vision industry, having shipped more than 500,000 machine vision systems, representing over $2.5 billion in cumulative revenue, since the company's founding in 1981. Headquartered in Natick, Massachusetts USA, Cognex has regional offices and distributors located throughout North America, Japan, Europe, Asia and Latin America. For details, visit Cognex on-line at http://www.cognex.com.

Certain statements made in this press release, which do not relate solely to historical matters, are forward-looking statements. These statements can be identified by use of the words "expects," "anticipates," "estimates," "believes," "projects," "intends," "plans," "will," "may," "shall," "could," and similar words. These forward-looking statements, which include statements regarding business, economic and market trends, future financial performance, customer order rates, strategic plans, and the impact of the company's cost-cutting measures, involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Such risks and uncertainties include: (1) current and future conditions in the global economy; (2) potential disruption to Cognex's business from its restructuring programs; (3) the cyclicality of the semiconductor and electronics industries; (4) the inability to achieve significant international revenue; (5) fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates; (6) the loss of a large customer; (7) the inability to attract and retain skilled employees; (8) the reliance upon key suppliers to manufacture and deliver critical components for Cognex products; (9) the failure to effectively manage product transitions or accurately forecast customer demand; (10) the inability to design and manufacture high-quality products; (11) the technological obsolescence of current products and the inability to develop new products; (12) the failure to properly manage the distribution of products and services; (13) the inability to protect Cognex proprietary technology and intellectual property; (14) involvement in time-consuming and costly litigation; (15) the impact of competitive pressures; (16) the challenges in integrating and achieving expected results from acquired businesses; (17) potential impairment charges with respect to Cognex's investments or for acquired intangible assets or goodwill; (18) exposure to additional tax liabilities; and (19) the other risks detailed in Cognex reports filed with the SEC, including its Form 10-K for the fiscal year 2009. You should not place undue reliance upon any such forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. Cognex disclaims any obligation to update forward-looking statements after the date of such statements.

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