



## Cognex Increases Quarterly Cash Dividend

NATICK, MA, May 2, 2011 — Cognex Corporation (NASDAQ: CGNX) announced today that the company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.09 per share. This dividend represents an increase of \$0.01 per share, or 12.5%, over the \$0.08 per share dividend paid in the prior quarter.

"Based upon the positive tone of business, the Board of Directors has decided to increase the quarterly dividend," said Dr. Robert J. Shillman, Chairman of Cognex Corporation. "This is the third dividend increase in the past twelve months, and it demonstrates the continued confidence that the Board has in Cognex's financial strength and business outlook."

The dividend announced today is payable on June 17, 2011, to all shareholders of record at the close of business on June 3, 2011.

### About Cognex Corporation

Cognex Corporation designs, develops, manufactures and markets a range of products that incorporate sophisticated machine vision technology that gives them the ability to "see." Cognex products include barcode readers, machine vision sensors and machine vision systems that are used in factories, warehouses and distribution centers around the world to guide, gauge, inspect, identify and assure the quality of items during the manufacturing and distribution process. Cognex is the world's leader in the machine vision industry, having shipped more than 600,000 vision-based products, representing over \$3 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," "should," and similar words. These forward-looking statements, which include statements regarding business and market trends, future financial performance, customer order rates, cost controls, and growth and strategic plans, 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) the cyclical nature of the semiconductor and electronics industries; (3) the inability to penetrate new markets; (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 ended December 31, 2010. 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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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Susan Conway

Director of Investor Relations

Cognex Corporation

Telephone: (508) 650-3353

Email: [susan.conway@cognex.com](mailto:susan.conway@cognex.com)