## **H&R Block Announces Tax Season Results Through March 31**

April 14, 2008 9:10 AM ET

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 14, 2008--H&R Block Inc. (NYSE: HRB) today reported tax season results for the interim periods March 16-31, 2008 and Nov. 1, 2007 - March 31, 2008. Excluding lending-products-only clients, Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) rebate filers, and the impact of an additional day due to leap year, retail clients served were estimated to be up 4.8 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively, over the prior year.

Total reported retail client growth for the March 16-31 period was 10.5 percent, of which approximately 5.8 percent was related to ESP filers. Year-to-date through March 31, total reported retail clients grew 4.2 percent of which 1.5 percent is estimated to be related to ESP filers and 1.1 percent is due to the leap year day.

The reported decrease in net average retail fee for March 16-31 was 4.8 percent, but would have decreased approximately 0.7 percent excluding ESP filers. Year-to-date, the reported increase in net average retail fee was 4.3 percent and would have been approximately 5.4 percent without ESP. The year-to-date increase in net average retail fee has moderated from 5.5 percent reported through March 15. The Company believes that this slowing of the rate of pricing growth reflects ESP filers at lower prices who would not otherwise have filed, as well as an acceleration of lower complexity returns typically filed in April into the second half of March.

ESP filers are individuals who would not otherwise be required to file an income tax return, but who are filing in 2008 in order to be eligible to receive rebate checks under the ESP program. The company is offering special low fees to ESP filers, which affects calculations of average fees.

Digital clients served were up 31 percent in the March 16-31 period and down 3.2 percent year-to-date through March 31, representing a significant improvement from a decline of 6.5 percent for the year-to-date period ending March 15.

H&R Block plans to release interim results through April 15 for its U.S. tax operations on May 12, 2008 before the NYSE market open.

## About H&R Block

H&R Block Inc. (NYSE: HRB) is the world's preeminent tax services provider, having served more than 400 million clients since 1955 and generating annual revenues of \$4 billion in fiscal year 2007. H&R Block provides income tax return preparation and related services and products via a nationwide network of approximately 13,000 company-owned and franchised offices and through TaxCut(R) online and software solutions. The company also provides business services through RSM McGladrey and certain consumer financial services. For more information visit our Online Press Center at www.hrblock.com.

H&R BLOCK Preliminary U.S. Tax Operating Data						
(in thousands, except average fee)						
Period						
	11/1-1/31	Feb Total (5)	YTD 2/29 (5) 3/1-3/15			
Net tax preparation fees: (1) Fiscal year 2008 Company-owned operations	\$439,757	\$ 690,811	\$1,130,568 \$ 188,660			
Franchise operations	225,035	335,522	560,557 79,372			
	\$664,792	\$1,026,333	\$1,691,125 \$ 268,032			

Fiscal year 2007 (2)	======	=======	=======	=======
Company-owned operations Franchise operations	\$424,770 218,894	\$ 613,275 298,496	\$1,038,045 517,390	
		\$ 911,771 ========		
Percent change				
Company-owned operations	3.5%	12.6%	8.9%	11.4%
Franchise operations	2.8%	12.4%	8.3%	8.7%
Total retail operations	3.3%	12.6%	8.7%	10.6%
otal clients served:				
Fiscal year 2008 Company-owned				
operations	2,430	3,958	6,388	1,073
Franchise operations	1,427	•	3,611	541
Lending products only	245	(157)	88	(2)
Total retail offices	4,102	5,985	10,087	1,612
Digital tax solutions	1,136		2,692	384
	5,238	7,541	12,779	•
T' 1 000F (0)				
Fiscal year 2007 (2) Company-owned				
operations	2,512	· ·		
Franchise operations	1,485		3,534	488
Lending products only	343	(261)	82	(3)
Total retail offices	4,340	5,489	9,829	1,488
Digital tax solutions	1,275	1,614	2,889	400
	5,615	•	12,718	•
Percent change		========		
Company-owned operations	-3.3%	6.9%	2.8%	7.0%
Franchise operations	-3.9%	6.6%	2.2%	10.9%
Retail operations excluding lending products only		6.8%		
Products Only	-3.5%	0.0% 	∠.0%	0.26
Total retail operations		9.0%		8.4%
Digital tax solutions				-4.0%
Total	-6.7%	6.2%	0.5%	 5.7%

Net average fee retail: (4) Fiscal year 2008 Company-owned

operations Franchise operations	\$ 181.19 \$ 157.91	154.12	155.62	147.64		
	 \$ 172.58	167.59 \$	169.52	\$ 166.91		
Fiscal year 2007 (2)						
Company-owned						
	\$ 169.47 \$	165 86 S	167 32	\$ 169.48		
Franchise operations	147.42		146.65			
Transmise operations						
:	\$ 161.27 \$	158.82 \$	159.82	\$ 163.17		
:	======= ===	:====== =:	=======	=======		
Percent change						
Company owned						
Company-owned operations	6 92	5 59	6 Nº	4.2%		
operations						
Franchise operations		5.5%		-1.7%		
Total retail				<b></b>		
operations	7.0%	5.5%	6.1%	2.3%		
		2/15 5:5:				
	YTD 3/15	3/16-3/31	Mar Total	YTD 3/31		
Wet tax preparation fees:						
(1)						
Fiscal year 2008						
Company-owned operations	s \$1,319,228	\$192,974	\$381,634	\$1,512,202		
Franchise operations				711,343		
-				·		
	\$1,959,157	\$264,388	\$532,420	\$2,223,545		
	========	=======	=======	========		
Fiscal year 2007 (2)						
Company-owned operation						
Franchise operations				661,951		
				\$2,049,253		
				\$2,049,253		
Percent change						
Company-owned operations	s 9.3%	7.3%	9.3%	9.0%		
Franchise operations	8.48	-0.2%	4.3%	7.5%		
Total retail operations		5.2%				
otal clients served: (3)						
Fiscal year 2008						
Company-owned operation						
Franchise operations				4,669		
Lending products only				85		
Total motall -ffi				12 212		
Total retail offices Digital tax solutions	3,076	406	3,225 790	13,312 3,482		
Digital tax Solutions				3,402		
				16,794		
				========		
Fiscal year 2007 (2)						
Company-owned operation	s 7,216	1,003	2,006	8,219		
Franchise operations	4,022	458	946	4,480		
Lending products only	79	(1)	(4)	78		
-		. ,	. ,			

					_			
								12,777
Digital tax solutions		3,289	_	310		710		3,599
		14,606		1,770		3,658		
Percent change								
Company-owned operations		3.4%						4.1%
Franchise operations		3.2%		12.9%		11.8%		4.2%
Retail operations excluding lending								
products only								4.2%
Total retail operations		3.4%		10.5%		9.4%		4.2%
Digital tax solutions		-6.5%		31.0%		11.3%		-3.2%
Total						9.8%		
Net average fee - retail: (4)								
Fiscal year 2008								
Company-owned operations Franchise operations	\$	154.58		138.77		143.30		177.22 152.83
	\$	169.15	\$	164.71	\$		\$	168.61
Fiscal year 2007 (2)	===:	======	==		=:	======	==	=======
Company-owned operations	\$	167.62	\$	180.16	\$	174.82	\$	169.15
Franchise operations		147.07				153.54		148.10
	\$	160.27	\$	172.94	\$	168.00	\$	161.72
Percent change	===:	======	==		=:	======	==	=======
Company-owned operations								4.8%
Franchise operations		5.1%		-11.7%		-6.7%		3.2%
Total retail operations		5.5%		-4.8%		-1.3%		4.3%

- (1)Gross tax preparation fees less coupons and discounts.
- (2)Prior year numbers have not been reclassified between company-owned and franchise offices for offices which commenced company-owned operations during fiscal year 2008. Prior year numbers have been reclassified between company-owned offices and Digital tax solutions for certain products.
- (3)Tax preparation clients for which revenue was earned and Emerald Advance (EA) or Instant Money Advance Loan (IMAL) clients.
- (4)Calculated as net tax preparation fees divided by retail tax preparation clients served.
- (5)Results are through 2/29/08 and 2/28/07 due to leap year. The additional day represents approximately 91,000 company and 48,000 franchise clients served as of 3/31/08.

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SOURCE: H&R Block Inc.