



Lee Enterprises Reports December Revenue Statistics

January 21, 2003

DAVENPORT, Iowa--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 21, 2003--Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (NYSE:LEE), reported today that, excluding the effects of acquisitions and divestitures, publishing revenue on an operating basis increased 2.8 percent in December compared with a year ago.

Total advertising revenue increased 1.9 percent. Retail advertising revenue increased 3.3 percent. Classified revenue decreased 0.8 percent, with employment advertising down 6.5 percent, automotive advertising down 1.2 percent, real estate advertising up

- 8.7 percent, other newspaper classified categories down 2.8 percent, and classified in alternative publications up 0.1 percent. National advertising revenue, a small category for Lee, decreased 1.4 percent.

Circulation revenue increased 0.8 percent. Online revenue increased 47.7 percent.

Including the results of acquisitions and divestitures, total publishing revenue increased 59.8 percent.

Lee Enterprises is based in Davenport, Iowa. Lee owns 38 daily newspapers and a joint interest in six others, along with associated online services. Lee also owns more than 175 weekly newspapers, shoppers and classified and specialty publications. Its stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LEE. More information about Lee Enterprises is available at www.lee.net.

The monthly and year-to-date statistical information follows.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED
Revenue and Statistical Summary
December 2002
(Unaudited)

Publishing Revenue -- Operating Basis (1)

(Thousands)	December			Year To Date		
	2002	2001	%	2002	2001	%
	(2)	(2)(3)		(2)	(2)(3)	
Advertising:						
Retail.....	\$19,699	\$19,072	3.3%	\$57,211	\$55,246	3.6%
National.....	944	957	(1.4)	3,127	3,161	(1.1)
Classified:						
Daily						
Newspapers:						
Employment...	1,999	2,139	(6.5)	6,884	7,254	(5.1)
Automotive...	2,295	2,323	(1.2)	6,993	6,841	2.2
Real Estate..	1,681	1,546	8.7	5,521	5,122	7.8
All Other....	1,474	1,517	(2.8)	4,918	4,824	(0.1)
Alternative						
publications..	1,338	1,336	0.1	4,971	4,717	5.4
Total						
Classified....	8,787	8,861	(0.8)	29,188	28,758	1.5
Total						
Advertising...	29,430	28,890	1.9	89,526	87,165	2.7
Circulation.....	8,964	8,897	0.8	25,859	25,683	0.7
Online.....	734	497	47.7	2,266	1,588	42.7
Other.....	5,950	5,566	6.9	17,892	17,519	2.1
Total -- Same						
Property						
Operating						
Basis.....	45,078	43,850	2.8	135,543	131,955	2.7
Equity Basis						

Adjustment.....	(9,540)	(9,071)	5.2	(28,038)	(26,730)	4.9
Acquired/Divested Properties and Other.....	21,055	627	NM	63,042	2,135	NM
	-----	-----		-----	-----	
Total Publishing Revenue.....	\$56,593	\$35,406	59.8%	\$170,547	\$107,360	58.9%
	=====	=====		=====	=====	

Daily Newspaper Advertising -- Operating Basis (1)

(Thousands of Inches)	December			Year To Date		
	2002	2001	%	2002	2001	%
	(2)	(2)(3)		(2)	(2)(3)	
Retail.....	714	701	1.9%	2,003	2,023	(1.0)%
National.....	25	28	(10.7)	85	96	(11.5)
Classified.....	502	513	(2.1)	1,594	1,597	(0.2)
	-----	-----		-----	-----	
Total, Same Property Operating Basis.....	1,241	1,242	--%	3,682	3,716	(0.9)%
	=====	=====		=====	=====	

Notes to Revenue and Statistical Summary:

- (1) Operating basis includes 100% of the revenue and statistical information of Madison Newspapers, Inc. (MNI), which for financial reporting purposes is reported using the equity method of accounting. Lee owns 50% of the stock of MNI.
- (2) The month had one more Tuesday and one fewer Saturday than the prior period. The year to date had one more Tuesday and one fewer Monday than the prior period.
- (3) Previously reported same-property data has been restated for comparative purposes to exclude acquired/divested properties.
- (4) The Company's fiscal year ends on September 30.
- (5) The Company disclaims responsibility for updating information beyond release date.

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "Safe Harbor" for forward-looking statements. This release contains information that may be deemed forward-looking and that is based largely on the Company's current expectations and is subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. Among such risks, trends and other uncertainties are changes in advertising demand, newsprint prices, interest rates, labor costs, legislative and regulatory rulings and other results of operations or financial conditions, difficulties in integration of acquired businesses or maintaining employee and customer relationships and increased capital and other costs. The words "may," "will," "would," "could," "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "projects," "considers" and similar expressions generally identify forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which are made as of the date of this release. The Company does not publicly undertake to update or revise its forward-looking statements.

CONTACT: Lee Enterprises, Incorporated, Davenport

Dan Hayes, 563/383-2163

dan.hayes@lee.net