



# PRESS RELEASE

## Arigo Congratulates Argos on Receipt of Retail Week's Technology Initiative of the Year Award

**N. Billerica, MA – August 19, 2009** - Arigo™, the leading provider of product Sourcing and Trade Management solutions for manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers, congratulates Argos on winning the Retail Week Technology Initiative of the Year Award. Argos was recognized for its Project Shanghai initiative utilizing the Arigo STM Suite for customs import and management.

Argos is one of the largest multi-channel retailers in the United Kingdom, serving over 130 million customers through online sales, telephone sales, and operating more than 700 stores. Argos has built a brand known for providing choice, value, and convenience. The retailer faced complex and expensive procedures to source, import, and deliver merchandise. Clearing customs and checking orders against deliveries were difficult processes. The Argos technology initiative, Project Shanghai, worked across internal departments and external partners to improve sourcing and collaboration. Project Shanghai helped Argos reduce costs and lead times with faster customs clearance and better product tracking.

“Immediate cost savings are critical in challenging economic times like these,” said Donny Askin, CEO of Arigo. “The Arigo STM Suite provides rapid cost savings by giving our customers better control and visibility over sourcing and import operations. STM Suite can be rapidly deployed with low up-front capital expense, letting clients achieve immediate savings and fast return on investment. Arigo congratulates Argos on winning the Retail Week Technology Initiative of the Year Award.”

The Retail Week awards recognize excellence and innovation in retail. The winners are chosen by a panel of judges from leading companies in the retail sector. The Retail Technology Initiative of the Year award recognizes an initiative that generates clear business results. In choosing Argos as the winner of this award, the judges stated, “Project Shanghai, which involved the participation not just of various Argos departments, but several external organizations, succeeded in delivering benefits including big cost savings, faster clearance and product tracking, and faster lead times.”

### **About Argos**

Argos is a unique retailer recognized for choice, value, and convenience. It sells general merchandise and products for the home from over 700 stores throughout the UK and Republic of Ireland, online and over the telephone. In the last financial year, Argos sales grew 8% to £4.2 billion and it employed some 34,000 people across the business. Argos serves over 130 million customers a year through its stores and takes four million customer orders either online or over the phone. On average, 17 million UK households, or around two-thirds of the population, have an Argos catalogue at home at any given time. Argos expects to add around 30 stores per annum with the chain expected to exceed 800 over time. Its internet site is the second most visited internet retail site in the UK. Argos is part of Home Retail Group, the UK's leading home and general merchandise retailer. For additional information about Argos, please visit: [www.argos.co.uk](http://www.argos.co.uk)

### **About Arigo**

Arigo is the leading provider of global product Sourcing and Trade Management solutions for manufacturers,

wholesalers, and retailers. Arigo's technology helps businesses optimize complex supply chain processes and visually manage assets to improve sourcing pipelines and product development processes. Annually, Arigo helps customers source over \$100 billion in goods from over 50 countries; manage over 40 million SKUs; track over 2,000,000 million containers; provide production visibility and support into 75,000 suppliers; and manage critical information and assets efficiently across their entire organization. To learn more about Arigo's product sourcing and trade management solutions, visit [www.arigo.com](http://www.arigo.com).

The Arigo name and logo is a trademark of Arigo, Inc. in the United States and in other countries. All other companies and products referenced herein are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

**Contact**

**Matthew Hicks**

[mhicks@arigo.com](mailto:mhicks@arigo.com)

+1.978.528.2200

[www.arigo.com](http://www.arigo.com)