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TOPEKA, Kan. (February 16, 2011) – Kostas Kontopanos was named president of [Hill's Pet Nutrition Inc.](#) U.S. He succeeds Suzan Harrison, who was appointed president, commercial business analytics at [Colgate-Palmolive](#) in January.

“Kostas’ extensive experience, both domestic and international, and his record of success in key operational and marketing roles will ensure that he brings outstanding leadership to the Hill's U.S. business,” said Neil Thompson, president and CEO of Hill’s.

Most recently, Kostas was vice president of marketing. Under his leadership, new product activity was dramatically accelerated for both the [Hill’s® Prescription Diet®](#) and [Hill’s® Science Diet®](#) line of pet food products. The marketing team generated a healthy pipeline of global innovation that continues to invigorate both brands.

Since joining Colgate-Palmolive in 1992, Kostas has held many marketing roles of increasing scope and responsibility, both at Colgate and Hill’s. The many initiatives Kostas led range from packaging standardization to brand strengthening and growth. As Director of the Kolynos Division in Brazil, he contributed to the strengthening of the Sorriso equity. He then moved to Colgate Portugal as Marketing Director, where he delivered record high growth on shares of all global equities.

Among other roles, Kostas also was general manager of Hill's Canada, in 2004. Under his leadership, shares increased while sales and profits grew year-on-year to record levels. Kostas led the team to achieve business results while streamlining the sales structure and establishing a commercial planning

process and key account management organization. He also fostered a stronger relationship with the [Canadian Veterinary Medical Association](#).

Returning to Colgate, Kostas became marketing director in 2007, for the Latin America Division, where the business achieved record market shares across categories, during his tenure. The division also increased professional recommendations and became the “Brand Recommended Most Often” by dentists in all of the countries in the division.

“Ours is a passionate, mission-driven organization and I am truly honored and excited to lead the Hill’s U.S. team,” said Kostas Kontopoulos, president, Hill’s U.S. “In my new role, I will reinforce our focus on innovation in Hill’s® Prescription Diet® and Hill’s® Science Diet® pet foods to offer new, precisely balanced nutritional products that will help pets around the world live longer, healthier, happier lives.

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#### **About Hill’s Pet Nutrition**

[Hill’s Pet Nutrition Inc.](#) manufactures Hill’s® Prescription Diet® brand pet foods, therapeutic pet foods available only through veterinarians, and Hill’s® Science Diet® brand pet foods sold through veterinarians and finer pet specialty stores. Founded more than 60 years ago with a unique commitment to pet nutrition and well-being, Hill’s is committed to its mission to help enrich and lengthen the special relationships between people and their pets. Hill’s produces high-quality, great-tasting pet foods owners can trust and give to their canine and feline companions as part of a veterinary health care team recommendation. This ultimately improves patient health and the health of the practice. For more information about Hill’s Pet Nutrition Inc. and Hill’s Evidence-Based Clinical Nutrition™ visit [HillsVet.com](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) or visit us on [Facebook](#) keywords “Hill’s Pet Nutrition.”