

EL POLLO LOCO LAUNCHES TASTY NEW SIGNATURE AVOCADO TOSTADAS

Four New Tostadas Available for a Limited Time

COSTA MESA, Calif., March 14, 2016 – El Pollo Loco (Nasdaq: LOCO), the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken chain, today announced the launch of four new Signature Avocado Tostadas, available for a limited time. The new items are artfully crafted starting with a crispy and crunchy tostada shell made in restaurant daily and topped with bold, fresh flavors for an irresistible meal at any time of day.

"We're continually testing new items to offer guests a balanced menu and we've found that texture is equally important as taste. Combining the crunchy tostada shells with savory beans and cheese, creaminess of avocado, the freshness of pico de gallo and our signature citrusmarinated, fire-grilled chicken makes for a satisfying dish packed with flavor," said Heather Gardea, Vice President of Research & Development at El Pollo Loco. "The new tostadas are filled with fresh and delicious ingredients and are sure to please our customers."

The new line of Signature Avocado Tostadas includes the following:

- California Chicken Chicken, avocado, olives, pinto beans, cheddar cheese, rice, pico de gallo
- Chicken & Shrimp Avocado Chicken, shrimp, avocado, black beans, corn, rice, pico de gallo, cotija
- Monterey Bacon Chicken Guacamole Chicken, bacon, guacamole, pinto beans, jack cheese, rice, pico de gallo
- Santa Fe Chicken Chicken, avocado, sour cream, pinto beans, poblano salsa, cheddar cheese, rice, pico de gallo

El Pollo Loco goes to crazy lengths to create Mexican-inspired entrées that are made with the freshest ingredients. The Grill Masters are obsessively devoted to preparing the brands' signature citrus-marinated chicken that are grilled to perfection and then chopped to top off the flavorful new tostadas.

About El Pollo Loco

<u>El Pollo Loco</u> (Nasdaq:LOCO) is the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken restaurant chain renowned for its masterfully citrus-marinated, fire-grilled chicken and handcrafted entrees using fresh ingredients inspired by Mexican recipes. With more than 430 company-owned and franchised restaurants in Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas and Utah, El Pollo Loco is expanding its presence in key markets like Houston and Dallas through a combination of company and existing and new franchisee development. Some say the lengths we go to create fresh, delicious food are crazy. We say it's Crazy You Can Taste. Visit us on our website at <u>ElPolloLoco.com</u>.

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