

Office DEPOT®

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OFFICE DEPOT TO CELEBRATE OPENING OF NEW STORE IN ST. LOUIS, MO., WITH MARCH 27 RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY

*Event to Include Donations to Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments, Children's Home Society of Missouri and Kids Under Twenty One;
Remarks by Local Business and Government Officials*

St. Louis, Mo., March 24, 2008 – Office Depot (NYSE: ODP), a leading global provider of office products and services, announced today that the Company will celebrate the opening of its newest store in St. Louis on Thursday, March 27, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. The store is located at 8750 Manchester Rd., at Brentwood Boulevard.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Office Depot Foundation will make \$500 contributions and donate a number of new children's backpacks to three local non-profit organizations: Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments, Children's Home Society of Missouri and Kids Under Twenty One. In addition, Jim McHugh, District Director for U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan; Michelle Sherod, Regional Director for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill; Brentwood Mayor Pat Kelly; Teresa Wheeler, Vice President, Brentwood Chamber of Commerce; and John A. Diefenbach, Vice President for Membership Development, St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association, will offer welcoming remarks. The public is invited to attend the event.

About the New Office Depot Store in St. Louis

According to Store Manager Andy Gravagna, the new St. Louis store features Office Depot's industry-leading M2 retail format. M2 offers customers the most enjoyable shopping experience in the industry – in a format that is intuitive, logical and designed specifically for the way people make purchase decisions.

Products are grouped in highly visible, strategically located "pods," with core supplies at the outer perimeter of the store – signed for optimal visibility and easy purchase – and furniture and technology at the center – to better support consultative sales.

The new Office Depot store employs approximately 20 full- and part-time associates. It houses more than 7,500 technology, furniture and supply products as well as Design, Print and Ship services in 20,545 square feet of customer space.

Store hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The telephone number for the store is 314-961-6552.

About the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

Special guests scheduled to participate in the March 27 ribbon-cutting include:

Non-Profit Organization Representatives:

- Muriel Smith, Development Director, Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments
- Laura Bennett-Smith, Director of Development, Children's Home Society of Missouri
- Elizabeth Makulec, Director, Kids Under Twenty One

Federal Officials:

- Jim McHugh, District Director for U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan
- Suzanne Archer, Deputy District Director for U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan
- Michelle Sherod, Regional Director for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill
- Peggy Barnhart, Community Liaison for U.S. Senator Kit Bond

Brentwood City Official:

- Mayor Pat Kelly

Brentwood Chamber of Commerce Representative:

- Teresa Wheeler, Vice President

St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association Representative:

- John A. Diefenbach, Vice President for Membership Development

"Office Depot is strongly committed to enhancing the quality of life in the communities in which our company conducts business," said Gravagna. "We are excited to open our new store in St. Louis and to assist these critically important non-profit organizations in their efforts to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families in this area."

The backpack donations are part of the Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program, through which it will donate 300,000 new backpacks this year to non-profit organizations and schools for distribution to deserving children throughout the United States and Canada. By the end of this year, Office Depot will have given away nearly 1.8 million backpacks since the program began in 2001.

About Office Depot

Every day, Office Depot is Taking Care of Business for millions of customers around the globe. For the local corner store as well as Fortune 500 companies, Office Depot provides products and services to its customers through more than 1,600 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and a \$4.9 billion e-commerce operation. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$15.5 billion, and employs about 49,000 associates around the world. The Company provides more office products and services to more customers in more countries than any other company, and currently sells to customers directly or through affiliates in 43 countries.

Office Depot's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ODP and is included in the S&P 500 Index. Additional press information can be found at <http://mediarelations.officedepot.com>. Details and images specific to Office Depot's retail division are available at <http://mediarelations.officedepot.cc/m2>.

About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation that serves as the primary charitable giving arm of Office Depot. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care, the Foundation strives to make a positive impact on many lives in many communities around the world. The Foundation supports a variety of programs that enhance the quality of life for children, strengthen communities, encourage local and global economic growth, and empower schools and non-profit organizations. It also provides support when disasters strike – doing what it can, not only to speed the process of rebuilding, but also to mitigate the impact of future disasters. Visit www.officedepotfoundation.org for more information.

About Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments

The Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments was founded in 1951 by alumnae of the Delta Gamma Fraternity whose national philanthropy is aid to the blind. The Center provides comprehensive early intervention services for infants and toddlers who are blind or visually impaired and their families, including education and orientation and mobility services; therapy services for children with complex developmental challenges, and a broad array of family support services as well.

About Children’s Home Society of Missouri

Children’s Home Society of Missouri (CHS) has been improving the quality of life for children in need since 1891. The founders were pioneers in the emerging field of child welfare and envisioned a society that would provide homes for abused and neglected children. Today the mission supports children through adoption services, post-adoptive education and counseling and developmental disabilities programs. In 2007, CHS launched one of the most comprehensive post-adoption education and counseling programs in the Midwest to support children and families in their journeys toward happiness and health.

About Kids Under Twenty One

Founded in 1987, Kids Under Twenty One (KUTO) strives to be a lead agency in utilizing youth and adult partner volunteers in providing peer-facilitated crisis prevention, suicide intervention and postvention support to youth in the St. Louis metropolitan area. KUTO trains youth with the skills, confidence and courage to help a friend or peer by implementing the “teens helping teens help themselves” philosophy. The best-known program, the KUTO Crisis Helpline, has helped thousands of teen callers identify and develop solutions for their problems. Trained youth crisis workers assist callers in working through feelings of anxiety, loneliness, depression or thoughts of suicide and develop action plans to manage stress, mediate conflict and overcome despair. Nearly one in 10 callers reports that a friend referred them to the KUTO Crisis Helpline.

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