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## **OFFICE DEPOT OPENS FIRST LEED FOR COMMERCIAL INTERIORS REGISTERED RETAIL STORE**

*Austin, Texas, Location One of 14 "Greener" Stores Planned For 2010*

**Boca Raton, Fla., July 15, 2010** – Office Depot® (NYSE: ODP), a leading global provider of office products and services, will celebrate the opening of its first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Commercial Interiors (CI) registered store today at 2 p.m. Office Depot expects the store to be certified a few months after opening. As part of the celebration, which will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Office Depot Foundation will make donations to local non-profit organizations. The store is located at 500 Canyon Ridge Drive in Austin, Texas. LEED CI is the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) recognized system for certifying high-performance green interiors that are healthy, productive places to work; are less costly to operate and maintain; and have a reduced environmental footprint.

Through LEED for Commercial Interiors, Office Depot is able to integrate environmentally friendly attributes into its stores' preexisting shells. Beginning with the Austin store, all new and relocated North American Office Depot retail locations will receive LEED CI certification, including 14 stores planned for 2010.

"Office Depot is at the forefront of corporate environmental sustainability," said Kevin Peters, President of North American Retail for Office Depot. "And LEED CI is a step forward in our expanded effort to grow greener."

According to Peters, Office Depot aims to continue the success of its [LEED Gold certified store](#) which opened in 2008. The store, also located in Austin, Texas, made Office Depot the first retailer to receive LEED Gold Certification on a store prototype. Among its many benefits, [the LEED Gold store lowers carbon emissions](#) by 23 percent and is about 15 percent more energy efficient (per square foot) than other Office Depot retail locations in Austin.

"As a leader in green initiatives, Office Depot is focused on improving the environmental performance of our suppliers, our customers and ourselves," said Yalmaz Siddiqui, Director of Environmental Strategy for Office Depot. "We take our role very seriously and hope that our commitment to 'green' all new stores has a positive impact on the communities they serve."

"Office Depot should be commended for their remarkable environmental leadership," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chair, USGBC. "Having all Office Depot locations – existing and future – undergo LEED certification is a tremendous

accomplishment and speaks volumes about not only their corporate commitment to mitigating our environmental challenges, but is also smart for their business, as these locations will be individually saving money over the lifecycle of the facilities.”

James Andrews, Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council Central Texas-Balcones Chapter, added, “Office Depot’s LEED Gold store on Anderson Lane, which opened two years ago, has set a terrific example for retailers in our region about the quantifiable benefits of building high performance, sustainable buildings. Office Depot’s commitment to building further stores green, like the one on Canyon Ridge Drive, highlights its continued leadership in this movement.”

### **Office Depot LEED CI Green Store Highlights**

Features of all new Office Depot LEED for Commercial Interiors certified stores will include:

- Skylights (where applicable) to harvest daylight for 90% of the store.
- Reflective roof, which features a membrane that helps to prevent absorption of the heat from the sun and keeps the interior of the store much cooler.
- Energy Star rated HVAC equipment, which exceeds the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standards.
- T5 energy-efficient lighting, which is over 30% more efficient than typical retail lighting and will contribute to a more than 20% reduction in energy use.
- Daylight and occupancy sensors, which reduce energy use.
- Water conservation interior fixtures, including tankless instant hot water heaters, low flush toilets, low flow urinals and automatic shutoff sensors in restrooms that will use over 30% less water than the typical facility.
- Construction waste that will be recycled when waste recycling is available.
- Construction materials that consist of at least 10% recycled content.
- Wood, 50% of which will come from Forest Stewardship Council certified sources.
- Interior finishes made up of low VOC emitting materials and finishes.
- Green Power purchases to supplement electrical use.
- Energy Management Systems that allow tracking of energy usage and trends from one central location.
- 100% Energy Star rated building equipment and appliances.
- Office supplies, technology and furniture featuring a range of green attributes, including recycled content, remanufactured, Energy Star rated and non-toxic.
- An in-store recycling center with environmental solutions including Office Depot Ink and Toner Cartridge Recycling, Tech Recycling Service and Cell Phone and Rechargeable Battery Recycling.
- Preferred parking designated for low-emitting, fuel-efficient vehicles and carpooling.

### **Supporting the Austin Community**

During today’s ceremony, the Office Depot Foundation will celebrate the opening of the Company’s first LEED CI certified store with a \$1,000 donation to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in support of environmental education programs. Additionally, the Office Depot Foundation will provide a total of 300 backpacks to the Austin Children’s Center, which provides emergency shelter, high-quality care and hope for the future to abandoned, abused and neglected children in the community, and SafePlace, which

provides shelters, programs and services for individuals and families affected by sexual and domestic violence.

The backpack donations are part of the Office Depot Foundation's award-winning National Backpack Program, through which it will donate approximately 300,000 new backpacks this year to deserving children across North America and beyond. The Foundation is celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program in 2010. By the end of this year, Office Depot will have given away more than 2.3 million backpacks since the program began in 2001.

For more information on Office Depot's environmental initiatives please visit: [www.officedepot.com/environment](http://www.officedepot.com/environment).

To learn more about the products and services available at Office Depot, please visit your local Office Depot [retail store location](#) or [www.officedepot.com](http://www.officedepot.com). To become a fan of Office Depot on Facebook and receive exclusive content, offers and more, please visit [www.facebook.com/officedepot](http://www.facebook.com/officedepot). To follow Office Depot on Twitter, please visit [www.twitter.com/officedepot](http://www.twitter.com/officedepot).

### **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 1,587 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and a \$4.2 billion e-commerce operation. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$12.1 billion, and employs about 41,000 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 52 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. General press information can be found at: <http://mediarelations.officedepot.com>. Media looking to access digital assets and news, please visit <http://socialpress.officedepot.com>. For more information about Office Depot's overall environmental initiatives, visit [www.officedepot.com/environment](http://www.officedepot.com/environment).

### **About the Office Depot Foundation**

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care<sup>®</sup>, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit [www.officedepotfoundation.org](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org).

### **About the U.S. Green Building Council**

The USGBC community is transforming the way we build, design and operate our buildings for healthier places that save precious resources for people to live, work, learn and play in. USGBC is helping create buildings and communities that regenerate and sustain the health and vitality of all life within a generation. Headquartered in

Washington, D.C., the Council is the driving force of the green building industry, which is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product by 2013. USGBC leads a diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials, concerned citizens, teachers and students. The USGBC community comprises 80 local chapters, 17,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 150,000 individuals who have earned LEED Professional Credentials. Visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org) for more information.