



**For Immediate Release**  
April 5, 2007

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## **IKEA WEST CHESTER ADVANCES TOWARDS SPRING 2008 OPENING**

### ***Permits, contractors secured for Cincinnati-area IKEA store to open next spring***

**CONSHOHOCKEN, PA** – IKEA, the world’s leading home furnishings retailer, today said key pre-construction milestones are progressing on schedule for its Spring 2008 store opening in West Chester, OH, just north of Cincinnati. Until IKEA West Chester opens in Spring 2008, customers can shop at midwestern IKEA stores in Bloomington, MN; Canton, MI (which opened last June 2006); Pittsburgh, PA; and two Chicago-area stores in Bolingbrook and Schaumburg, IL; or at [www.IKEA-USA.com](http://www.IKEA-USA.com).

IKEA hired Clark Construction of Lansing, Michigan as the primary contractor, having successfully completed the IKEA store that opened last June 7 in Canton, MI. Clark currently is mobilized on site in West Chester. Other firms involved with the Cincinnati-area’s future IKEA store include: Greenberg Farrow Architecture of Atlanta responsible for civil site design and construction drawings; Bayer Becker of Fairfield, OH - responsible for the off-site road improvement design; Cincinnati’s ATC Associates Inc - responsible for Geotechnical and testing services; and Keating Muething & Klekamp of Cincinnati served as local counsel.

“With our land purchased, team selected, and permits secured, we are on schedule to open IKEA West Chester next spring, 2008,” observed Michael Maier, IKEA real estate manager. “Construction crews recently commenced preliminary site work, and we look forward to breaking ground officially next month.”

In addition to 10,000 exclusively-designed items, IKEA West Chester will present 50 different room settings, three complete model homes, a supervised children’s play area, and a 300-seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties such as meatballs with lingonberries or salmon plates, as well as American dishes. Other family-friendly features include a ‘Children’s IKEA’ area in the showroom, baby care rooms, preferred parking and play areas throughout the store.

The 339,000-square-foot future IKEA West Chester and its 1,700 parking spaces will be built on 28 out of 56 acres along I-75 at the southeastern corner of Allen and Muhlhauser Roads, south of the Union Centre Boulevard exit. IKEA West Chester will reflect the same unique architectural design for which IKEA stores are known worldwide, and will employ approximately 400 coworkers when the new store opens. IKEA also will be selling three acres that will be available for complementary retail and restaurant uses.

There currently are more than 250 IKEA stores in 35 countries, including 29 in the United States, where other stores are being planned in: Brooklyn, NY; Charlotte, NC; Draper, UT; Orlando, FL; Portland, OR; Somerville, MA; Sunrise, FL; and Tampa, FL. Since its 1943 founding in Sweden, IKEA has offered a wide range of home furnishings and accessories of good design and function, at low prices so the majority of the people can afford them. IKEA has been ranked in *FORTUNE*’s annual “100 Best Companies to Work For” list (three years in a row), *Working Mother* magazine’s annual list of “100 Best Companies for Working Mothers” (four years in a row) and *Training* magazine’s annual “Top 125” ranking of companies that excel at human capital development (five years in a row). IKEA incorporates environmentally friendly and socially responsible efforts into day-to-day business, and continuously supports initiatives that benefit causes such as children and the environment. For the IKEA Web Site or for information about working at IKEA, please go to [www.IKEA-USA.com](http://www.IKEA-USA.com).

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