



The Home Depot Set to Open Third LEED®-Registered Store in Pickering

-Eco Project Store Concept to Open September 4, 2008-

Pickering, ON – September 2, 2008 – Pickering will soon be home to The Home Depot's third LEED®-registered store. Opening on September 4, 2008, the store will also be the company's third project store, a concept that has been very well received by customers in Richmond Hill, ON and Markham, ON.

LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the point score used by the Canadian Green Building Council to help new and existing buildings become more environmentally friendly. The Home Depot has already built two LEED®-certified stores in Calgary, AB (2006) and Bowmanville, ON (2008). On average, a LEED®-certified store saves 157,680 kW of energy annually, based on a 12 hour workday.

The design of the new, 115,000-square-foot store addresses three areas that are large energy consumers – electricity, water and gas, while also reducing waste and pollution. Features include: a reflector roof that bounces back the sun's heat, lowering air-conditioning demands; special light fixtures that work on occupancy and timing and photocell sensors that turn lights on or off depending on the time of day and sensor-operated faucets and toilets to conserve water. The building was constructed with mostly local materials and the company ensured that contractors disposed of materials properly.

The building is also designed to help employees become more environmentally aware with bicycle racks and employee showers. All employees have been trained to recycle plastic, cardboard, glass and metal materials.

"I am proud of the changes we have made as a company to do what is best for the environment and our business," said Annette Verschuren, president, The Home Depot Canada and Asia. "Since 1994, The Home Depot has been educating customers by offering Eco Options products and programs to exchange and recycle old, inefficient products. We are committed to continuing to enhance the way we operate to ensure that we are making environmentally conscious decisions every step of the way."

The Home Depot Canada is a leader in environmental stewardship in the home improvement industry and demonstrates its leadership by making the environment a core part of its business including:

- Retrofitting all Canadian stores with T5 fluorescent light fixtures saving over 180,000 kilowatt hours a year at each location while reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 128 metric tonnes a year per location.
- Retrofitting all Canadian stores with a low wattage bulb program in the light display which has reduced 145 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions to-date.
- Replacing 50 percent of store neon building signs with highly efficient LEDs.

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- Installing solar panels on up to three Canadian stores. Currently, the Woodbridge, ON location generates enough power to ensure that it comfortably runs on a daily basis. Energy is sold back into the grid and the 23kW solar PV system generated over 30,000 kWh in the first year.

- As of Nov 13, 2007, the Canadian Division of The Home Depot reduced overall energy consumption by 11.8% over last year.
- Since 2004, The Home Depot's store energy management system will automatically turn off the light display, including outdoor lighting and chandeliers and further will turn off half of the stores ceiling lights when the temperature rises above 30°C in a municipality. This initiative saves 90 kilowatt hours (kWh) per store every hour when in effect.

The new LEED®-registered project store is located at 1105 Kingston Road in Pickering, Ontario.

About The Home Depot

Founded in 1978, in Atlanta, Georgia, The Home Depot is the world's largest home improvement retailer, currently operating 2,257 stores, including 167 The Home Depot stores across Canada. In fiscal 2007, The Home Depot had sales of \$77.3 billion and earnings from continuing operations of \$4.2 billion. The Company employs more than 300,000 people, including more than 30,000 Canadians.

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