



NEWS RELEASE

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Crate and Barrel “LEEDS” the way in Lincoln County and in the Region

Expansion Provides Charlotte Region with its’ First Green Distribution Center

LINCOLNTON, N.C. – Crate and Barrel’s \$23.5 million distribution center is the first of its kind in Lincoln County, the Charlotte region and possibly the state; their expansion will meet the green building and performance measures earning a certification which symbolizes that their building is environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to work.

“We will be building a 400,000 sq ft facility to add capacity to our furniture distribution and home delivery network. This facility will open in June of 2009 and will support additional vendor consolidation and home delivery operations to our southeast market. The facility will be designed to be expandable to approximately 800,000 sq ft based on future need to expand to support our store-opening schedule and the growth of the internal business.

We have been extremely happy with our relationship with Lincoln County and The Keith Corporation and look forward to another successful project. The Lincoln County area has provided an excellent pool of new associates and we are excited to be expanding our presence in this region.” says John Ling, VP Supply Chain Management & Logistics with Crate and Barrel.

Crystal Gettys, existing business manager with the Lincoln Economic Development Association, “The existing industries within the Lincoln County Industrial Park continue to prosper. After Cataler’s announcement last week to invest \$16.3 million and provide 50 new jobs; the news that Crate and Barrel will not only expand their facility bringing additional jobs, but also be the first LEED facility in the Charlotte region is exciting. “Crate and Barrel’s corporate commitment to sustainability and eco-friendly business practices led to the decision to apply for LEED certification of the new distribution center. The Keith Corporation is very proud to be partnered with Crate and Barrel in this initiative, and we are very honored to be the developer of their logistics campus in Lincoln County. This could be the first build to suit LEED certified distribution center in the State of North Carolina.” says Alan Lewis, with The Keith Corporation.

Pete Acker, chair of the Lincoln Economic Development Association, “Crate and Barrel has laid the groundwork for what is yet to come in Lincoln County. Environmental issues have become more and more of a focal point; it’s exciting to see one of the top industries of Lincoln County setting the standard for others to follow.”

Crate and Barrel will receive cash grants of \$102,014 per year over a five year period which was approved by Lincoln County commissioners back in April. The expansion is expected to bring with it initially 70 new jobs, then expected to grow to 220 jobs.

“Crate and Barrel’s decision to expand their distribution at the Lincoln Country Industrial Park is most welcome and gives continuing evidence that industries that choose Lincoln

County stay and expand in Lincoln County. This will offer further opportunity for current and future employees of Crate and Barrel in Lincoln County. We appreciate this additional significant commitment of resources and look forward to Crate and Barrel's continued success in Lincoln County." says, Tom Anderson, chair of the Lincoln County

Commissioners

Choate Construction is the general contractor for the project, and Merriman Schmitt

Architects, Inc. is the project architect.

About LEDA

Lincoln Economic Development Association is a private, 501c(3) non-profit corporation charged with facilitating industrial, office and commercial development in Lincoln and Lincoln County. LEDA's mission is to foster an economic environment that promotes an increased tax base and enhances the standard of living by creating better jobs for the citizens of Lincoln and Lincoln County. The organization's goals include expanding existing business and industry, developing and encouraging investment by new business and industry and fostering cooperation between business, government, schools and the community.

About Crate and Barrel

Crate and Barrel is a home furnishings retailer founded in 1962 by Gordon and Carole Segal. It has over 160 stores in 25 markets and over 7,000 associates nationwide. Crate and Barrel's headquarters are located in Northbrook, Ill.

About “LEED”

In the United States and in a number of other countries around the world, LEED certification is the recognized standard for measuring building sustainability. Achieving LEED certification is the best way for you to demonstrate that your building project is truly “green.” The program is designed to promote design and construction practices that increase profitability while reducing the negative environmental impacts of buildings and improving occupant health and wellbeing. To learn more about LEED, visit www.nrdc.org.

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