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# Furniture distribution center to go in Louisiana

## Rooms to Go building \$45M Pearl River facility

*Staff reports*

PEARL RIVER, La. — National furniture chain Rooms To Go has expanded its presence in Louisiana with the purchase of 60 acres in Pearl River to construct a distribution site and retail store.

The project and the construction of the facility will cost about \$45 million and will include an 818,000-square-foot distribution center and 40,000-square-foot Rooms To Go retail outlet.

The distribution facility will service the four Rooms To Go showrooms already in Louisiana in Baton Rouge, Metairie, Gretna and Covington.

The project is expected to provide about 300 construction jobs and more than 400 permanent jobs upon its completion.

"We are thrilled that Rooms To Go is building this state-of-the-art distribution facility in our parish," said Brenda Reine-Bertus, executive director of the St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation.

"It will create jobs in the near and long terms, as well as providing our residents with a convenient new furniture shopping alternative."

The distribution center will supply furniture to Rooms To Go customers from Panama City, Fla., to Baton Rouge, and will offer expanded next-day delivery of furniture in Louisiana and elsewhere along the Gulf Coast.

Construction was slated to begin this spring, with an anticipated completion date in the fall of 2009.

"The acquisition of land in Louisiana showcases our ongoing commitment to the rebuilding of Louisiana post-Hurricane Katrina," said Rooms To Go CEO Jeffrey Seaman.

Seffner, Fla.-based Rooms To Go Corp. is a major independent furniture company with the nation's largest furniture inventory and more than 130 locations. Rooms to Go entered the Louisiana market in 2006 after taking over the former Kirschman's furniture stores.