



Aaron Rents, Inc. Announces New Store Openings

August 24, 2001

ATLANTA, Aug 24, 2001 /PRNewswire/ -- Aaron Rents, Inc. (NYSE: RNT), the nation's leader in the rental, sales and lease ownership, and specialty retailing of residential and office furniture, consumer electronics and home appliances, today announced a number of new store openings in its Aaron's Sales and Leasing Division.

In early July, the Company acquired 52 additional Heilig-Meyers real estate locations, bringing the total to 82 former Heilig-Meyers locations acquired since their Chapter 11 filing. The majority of the stores now opening are the former Heilig-Meyers locations. The Company plans to add a total of 120 new sales and lease ownership stores during the 2001 year.

The stores opening in the quarter ending September 30, 2001, which total 48, are listed by opening date as follows:

Store Location	Date Opened or To Be Opened
Chandler, AZ	July 2
Marshall, TX	July 4
Okmulgee, OK	July 7
Santurce, PR	July 9
Bellefontaine, OH	July 16
Hammond, LA	July 18
Camden, SC	July 20
Douglas, GA	July 28
Waynesville, NC	August 7
Newberry, SC	August 7
Alcoa, TN	August 9
Meridian, MS	August 13
Shelby, NC	August 13
Laurel, MS	August 16
Cordele, GA	August 18
Las Vegas, NV	August 20
Fairview Heights, IL	August 20
Statesville, NC	August 20
Corinth, MS	August 20
Crawfordsville, IN	August 20
Sequin, TX	August 20
Logansport, IN	August 23
Odessa, TX	August 23
Dickson, TN	August 23
Mooreville, NC	August 23
Las Vegas, NV	August 24
Palestine, TX	August 27
Tiffin, OH	August 27
Pell City, AL	August 27
Hendersonville, NC	August 27
Greensboro, NC	August 27
Cookesville, TN	August 30
Lancaster, SC	August 30
Mount Vernon, OH	August 30
Crowley, LA	August 30
Beaufort, SC	September 3
Tullahoma, TN	September 3
Greenville, OH	September 3
Bartlesville, OK	September 3
Milledgeville, GA	September 6
Murfreesboro, TN	September 6
Chillicothe, OH	September 6
Warrensburg, MO	September 6
Harrisonburg, VA	September 10

Eden, NC	September 10
Abingdon, VA	September 13
Richmond, VA	September 15
Virginia Beach, VA	September 15
Total	48 Stores

Aaron Rents, Inc., based in Atlanta, currently has more than 600 Company- operated and franchised stores in 42 states and Puerto Rico for the rental and sale of residential and office furniture, accessories, consumer electronics and household appliances. The Company manufactures furniture, bedding and accessories at 11 facilities in four states.

Note: Forward-looking statements in this news release are based on current expectations and are subject to risks and uncertainties, and actual results may vary materially from the expectations due to such factors as changes in general economic conditions, competition, pricing, customer demand and other issues.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this news release regarding Aaron Rents, Inc.'s business which are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2000, which discussion is incorporated herein by this reference.

SOURCE Aaron Rents, Inc.

CONTACT: Gilbert L. Danielson, Executive Vice President and Chief
Financial Officer of Aaron Rents, Inc., +1-404-231-0011