



Aaron Rents, Inc. to Enter Canadian Market; Opening Franchise Stores in Ontario

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ATLANTA, Oct 13, 2003 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- 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 and accessories, today announced the planned opening of Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership franchise stores in Ontario. This will be the Company's first entry into the Canadian market.

"We are very excited about opening in Canada," said R. Charles Loudermilk, Sr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Aaron Rents. "Although we have almost unlimited growth opportunities in the United States, we also see the Canadian market as a huge opportunity for our highly successful Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership concept."

The initial store in Canada will be opened in November in Kitchener, Ontario by W.E. Hall & Sons Company, a franchisee who has been awarded an area development agreement to open a total of six stores in southwest Ontario over the next three years. Aaron Rents is also actively marketing franchise opportunities in other parts of Ontario and Canada, and anticipates announcing other planned franchise openings in the near future.

"The Canadian market obviously is different in many respects from the way we do business in the United States," Mr. Loudermilk continued. "We expect to learn a lot from our franchisee during these early months, and then use this knowledge to help us aggressively expand throughout the country."

Aaron Rents, Inc. based in Atlanta, currently has more than 790 Company- operated and franchised stores across the United States and Puerto Rico for the rental and sale of residential and office furniture, accessories, consumer electronics and household appliances. The Company also manufactures furniture, bedding and accessories at 10 facilities in four states.

"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 materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include factors such as changes in general economic conditions, competition, pricing, customer demand and other issues, and the risks and uncertainties discussed under "Certain Factors Affecting Forward Looking Statements" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2002, which discussion is incorporated herein by this reference.

SOURCE Aaron Rents, Inc.

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