NEWS RELEASE

American Eagle Outfitters More Than Doubles its Midwest Distribution Center

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OTTAWA, Kan.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 6, 2006--American Eagle Outfitters (Nasdaq:AEOS) is making news and big investments in both themselves and the Midwest. Today they broke ground on a 540,000 square foot addition to their current distribution center in Ottawa, Kan. Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius and Ottawa Mayor Richard Jackson took part in the ceremony that signals the start of American Eagle's plans to more than double their current facility.

American Eagle Outfitters currently operates 798 AE stores in 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and 71 AE stores in Canada. AE also operates ae.com, which ships around the world.

"The expanded center will provide distribution solutions in three areas of the company. AE Direct, the company's Internet business, will now be handled through the Ottawa facility, as will our complete line of intimate apparel and the new Martin+Osa line, a new sportswear concept targeting 25 to 45 year old women and men, this fall," says Richard Stukus, Senior Director Operations and Projects for American Eagle Outfitters. Ironically, AE selected the name Martin+Osa after Kansas adventurers Martin and Osa Johnson.

"We were thrilled when American Eagle decided to come here five years ago and the fact that they chose to further invest their resources in our community," says Ottawa Chamber of Commerce President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Tom Weigand.

In fact, location played a major role in American Eagle's decision to settle in Ottawa in 2000. Located about 55 miles southwest of downtown Kansas City, Ottawa is strategically situated off I-35, a key traffic flow for shipping from

Mexico to Canada.

American Eagle has called in two nationally recognized leaders in construction and materials handling to partner in the facility expansion. Both Vargo Engineered Material Handling Solutions in Columbus, Ohio, and H&M Company, Inc. in Jackson, Tennessee, a Design/Build company, have worked with American Eagle on past projects.

Building design and prep will begin immediately, with the first phase of construction scheduled to start in September of this year. The physical building is expected to be completed and operational by April 2007. American Eagle plans to add nearly 300 new jobs as a result of the expansion.

For more information about American Eagle Outfitters, visit their website, **www.AE.com**.

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