

IKEA Plugs-in 4 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Atlanta, GA

11th IKEA store in U.S. to complete installation of units

ATLANTA--IKEA, the world's leading home furnishings retailer, today officially plugged-in four Blink® electric vehicle charging stations at its Atlanta, Georgia store as part of its partnership with Car Charging Group, Inc. (OTCQB: CCGI), the new owner of the Blink Network and Blink charging stations, and the largest provider of EV charging services with more than 13,430 charging points in 35 states and three countries. To charge an EV at IKEA Atlanta, drivers pull into a designated parking spot, tap their Blink InCard (RFID card) to the reader below the screen, plug the charger into the EV, and then shop and eat at their leisure in the IKEA store while the vehicle is charging.

This initiative represents the 11th such U.S. project for IKEA, with installation underway at other locations. In all, installation of units currently planned will bring the number of Blink charging stations available at IKEA locations to 55. Drivers may also call Blink Customer Support (888-998-2546) for a guest code for the charging session and/or become a Blink member, which provides discounted rates at Blink stations. Information about Blink membership is also available at blinknetwork.com.

"Our mission is to create a better everyday life for the many people and to help everyone live more sustainable lives. At IKEA Atlanta, we just added to this effort with these electric-vehicle charging stations," said Jim Anastos, IKEA Atlanta store manager. "We appreciate the support of CarCharging and Georgia Power in making this opportunity available to members of the community."

IKEA, drawing from its Swedish heritage and respect of nature, believes it can be a good business while doing good business and aims to minimize impacts on the environment. Globally, IKEA evaluates locations regularly for conservation opportunities, integrates innovative materials into product design, works to maintain sustainable resources, and flat-packs goods for efficient distribution. Specific U.S. sustainable efforts include: recycling waste material; incorporating energy-efficient HVAC and lighting systems, recycled construction materials, skylights in warehouse areas, and water-conserving restrooms. Operationally, IKEA eliminated plastic bags from the check-out process, phased-out the sale of incandescent bulbs, facilitates recycling of customers' compact fluorescent bulbs, and by 2016 will sell only L.E.D.

Located on 15 acres in Midtown Atlanta's mixed-use Atlantic Station development just off the I-75/85 connector, the 366,000-s.f. IKEA Atlanta opened June 2005. In addition to 10,000

exclusively designed items, this IKEA store presents 48 different room-settings, three model home interiors, a supervised children's play area, and a 450-seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties such as meatballs with lingonberries and salmon plates, as well as American dishes. Other family-friendly features include a 'Children's IKEA' area in the Showroom, baby care rooms, play areas throughout the store, and preferred parking. Also, IKEA completed installation of a solar energy system atop the store in 2012.

Since its 1943 founding in Sweden, IKEA has offered home furnishings of good design and function at low prices so the majority of people can afford them. There are currently more than 340 IKEA stores in 42 countries, including 38 in the U.S. IKEA incorporates sustainability into day-to-day business and supports initiatives that benefit children and the environment. For more information, see IKEA-

<u>USA.com,facebook.com/IKEAUSA, @DesignByIKEA, and https://pinterest.com/IKEAUSA/.</u>