

UK'S LARGEST PET STORE RETAILER COMES TO BEXHILL

Pets at Home is to open a 5,915 sq. ft. store in Bexhill this September, creating several new jobs in the area. The £473,000 store will be based on <u>South Lakeland Retail Park</u> and will be the company's 219th store.

General Manager, Cliff Evans, expects business to be booming in Bexhill, especially after the success at stores across the UK last year. The company is now the UK's biggest player in the £2billion-a-year pet care market, reporting profits of £61 million for the year to end of March 2008, on turnover of £350 million.

Cliff comments: "Our new store will provide plenty of options for customers and we welcome pets of all shapes and sizes. Whether you are looking for food, toys, clothing, bedding or something a bit quirky, Pets at Home has the most fantastic range and choice. Our expert team will also be on hand to offer the best advice for you and your pet, on any matter – from nutrition to toilet training."

As with all Pets at Home stores, the Bexhill outlet will provide customers with a spacious, clean and modern shopping environment offering more than 4,500 dedicated pet products in the specially designed store, which will cater for dogs, cats, small animals, birds and fish, as well as wildlife.

Pets at Home provides discerning pet lovers the high quality they deserve and most of its services can't be found at any other retailer. These include a dedicated <u>Nutrition Centre</u>, offering balanced diet and nutrition advice, a unique <u>Boutique clothing and accessories</u> range, bedding and housing, a Pet Village and top healthcare products, including <u>Frontline and Drontal</u>.

The new store will also include Pets at Home's' very own adoption scheme, <u>Support Adoption</u> which aims to offer unwanted pets a second chance of happiness. Pets at Home takes its customers extremely seriously and Bexhill's in-store experts are currently undergoing further training, to ensure they continuously offer the best advice possible.

Cliff concludes: "We are passionate about pets and that is evident to everyone who visits our stores. People don't just come to shop; they come to share the Pets at Home experience – and pets are welcome too"

The company operates 218 stores across the UK and N.Ireland – it's most northerly posting is in Wick and southerly is in Truro. Pets at Home opened its first store in Chester in 1991.

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For further information please contact Owen LaBeck on 0161 324 9711 / 07841 279 867

Notes to Editors:

- Pets at Home was named Specialist Retailer of the Year in 2007 by Retail
 Week
- Pets at Home has 218 stores across the UK
- Pets at Home offers more than 4,500 products for cats, dogs, birds and small animals and wildlife. All stores provide pet care, supplies and advice to pet owners and some also feature grooming facilities and veterinary surgeries.
- Total household spend on pets in the UK is estimated to be worth £3.8 billion annually.
- Pets at Home came out on top for the UK in 'Europe's 500 Listing' which identifies the 500 most successful companies across 18 European countries based on job creation, sales performance and profit over a five year period.
- For further information and your nearest store please visit www.petsathome.com