

STAPLES®

About Staples

Facts and figures 2008



Our Company

Staples, the world's largest office products company, is committed to making it easy for customers to buy a wide range of office products, including supplies, technology, furniture, and business services. With \$27 billion in sales, Staples serves businesses of all sizes and consumers in 27 countries throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia. In July 2008, Staples acquired Corporate Express, one of the world's leading suppliers of office products to businesses and institutions. Staples invented the office superstore concept in 1986 and is headquartered outside Boston. Visit www.staples.com to learn more.

Our Business

Staples North American Retail

Staples operates 1,773 retail stores throughout the United States and Canada, offering savings on more than 7,000 office products. Staples opened its first store on May 1, 1986 in Brighton, MA and currently operates 1,475 stores in the U.S. and 298 stores in Canada. Our stores are designed, and associates are trained, to make it easy for small business and home office customers to buy the office products and services they need.

The typical Staples superstore sells between 7,000 and 8,000 products and covers about 20,000 square feet that includes a Copy & Print Center, UPS® Ship Center and a Staples® EasyTech™ computer service desk. In-store Internet kiosks allow customers to shop over 30,000 products available on staples.com, ensuring they always find what they need.

Staples North American Delivery

Our North American Delivery business includes Staples Contract, Staples Business Delivery® and Quill®.

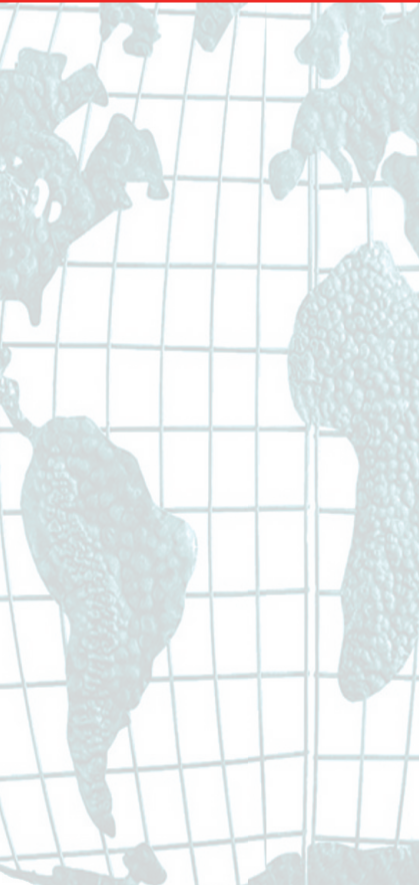
Staples Contract is Staples' fastest-growing business, with double-digit growth over the past seven years. We serve both mid-sized companies (20 or more employees) through Staples Business Advantage® and Fortune 1000 companies through Staples National Advantage®.

Staples Business Delivery serves consumers and small business customers through catalogs and staples.com® in the U.S. and Canada.

Quill, the office supply direct marketer, was acquired by Staples in May 1998 and continues to operate as a separate brand. Quill serves the needs of small- to medium-sized business customers through catalogs and Quill.com.

See reverse side for more about the Staples organization. ▶

We make buying office products easy.



Staples International

Staples operates in 27 countries throughout North and South America, Europe and Asia/Pacific.

Asia/Pacific

Staples® China is a multichannel office products supplier operating in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen/Guangzhou, while UB Staples® is our delivery business in Taiwan. Via Future Group, our joint venture partner in India, Staples Future Office serves businesses of all sizes through delivery, stores and cash-and-carry locations. With the recent acquisition of Corporate Express, Staples also now serves the office supply, technology services and furniture needs of customers in Australia and New Zealand.

European Catalogue

Almost 3 million European businesses and consumers turn to our European Catalogue business for their office products needs. Staples operates 10 different catalogues and Web sites serving 15 European countries, including Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

European Contract

Through Corporate Express, Staples serves businesses located in 15 European countries, including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Staples offers its customers a wide variety of office products, computer supplies, furniture, document and print management and facilities supplies.

European Retail

Staples maintains a strong European presence with 271 retail stores in five countries, including Belgium (5 stores), Germany (58 stores), Netherlands (47 stores), Portugal (25 stores) and the United Kingdom (136 stores).

South America

Staples entered the South American market in 2004 with the acquisition of Officenet, an office products delivery business that recently opened its first store in Buenos Aires, Argentina. With operations in Argentina and Brazil, Officenet is the largest business-to-business eCommerce company in South America.