

Student information

Home Retail Group

- Home Retail Group is the UK's leading home and general merchandise retailer
- Home Retail Group's distribution infrastructure handles around 400 million individual products per year
- 9% of Group sales are now transacted on in-house store cards
- Home Retail Group Financial Services is one of the largest store card providers in the UK, having over one million active store card customers
- Home Retail Group has a market leading 10% share of the general merchandise and home enhancement market in the UK
- The Group's management team has a wealth of experience, built from both within the Group and across the wider retail sector
- Over the last four years, we have opened 142 stores, developed 77 mezzanines in Homebase stores and integrated Focus and Index stores into its business
- Home Retail Group makes six million deliveries of large products to customers each year, delivering to one in six homes
- Home Retail Group's sourcing operations in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Shenzhen employ over 150 people
- Home Retail Group Financial Services is one of the largest UK store card businesses by both value and number of accounts
- Home Retail Group is the leading furniture retailer in the UK
- Home Retail Group is one of the UK's leading retailers in the horticulture, garden furniture and outdoor living market
- We have been awarded gold status in the Business in the Community "Companies That Count" index
- We have reduced the carbon footprint of our operations by 11%
- We are on track to raise over £2m over two years for the British Heart Foundation and Heart Children Ireland through our first Group-wide charity partnership
- All our paper publications, including the Argos catalogue, are 100% recyclable
- We now recycle over 70% of our waste and have reduced the amount of waste we send to landfill by 44%
- 70% of Argos management have been appointed through internal promotions
- Our community investment of £884,000 has helped to generate a further £1.8m of donations from colleagues and customers for charitable and community causes

- We have taken action to help customers reduce their carrier bag use, achieving a 40% reduction over the last three years
- Home Retail Group employs approximately 53,000 people
- We are members of the Dow Jones Global Sustainability Index and have been awarded a silver class – placing us in the top four general retailers. We are also members of the FTSE4Good Index
- In recognition that more than 10% of colleagues contribute to payroll giving, we have received a gold award from the Institute of Fundraising

Argos

- Argos sells over 18,000 general merchandise products for the home
- Argos produces 40 million copies of its 1,800 page twice yearly catalogue
- 18 million households, representing over two thirds of the population, have an Argos catalogue at home
- www.argos.co.uk is the UK's second most popular e-commerce retail site
- Argos delivered 12 million products to customers' homes in the last financial year
- Argos is the UK's largest general merchandise retailer and is a unique retailer recognised for choice, value and convenience
- Argos is the UK's leading retailer in a number of product markets – housewares, furniture, jewellery, toys, sports and leisure equipment and small domestic appliances
- Argos serves an estimated 2.5 million customers per week
- 21% of Argos' sales are delivered direct to home
- Argos prices are either lowered during the life of the catalogue – permanently or through a series of promotions communicated throughout the year
- Argos intends to open approximately 20 stores this financial year
- Argos serves over 130 million customers per year through over 700 high street and out-of-town stores
- 40% of Argos' sales now bypass the store as the order or receipt channel
- Argos is well established as the leading jewellery retailer in the UK by volume
- Argos is the long standing number one toy retailer in the UK
- Argos is the leading sports and leisure equipment retailer
- Argos is the number one retailer in the small domestic appliances market
- Argos is the second largest UK retailer within the consumer electronics market

- We have produced an audio CD of the Argos catalogue for the visually impaired, featuring verbal descriptions of our most popular products
- Argos won two awards at the 2009 Retail Week Awards – Online Retailer of the Year and Retail Technology Initiative of the Year
- Argos employs approximately 10,000 extra retail staff during the Christmas period

Homebase

- Homebase sells over 30,000 products across the wider home enhancement market
- Homebase is the UK's second largest home improvement retailer, recognised for choice, style and customer service
- The "Furniture and Home" catalogue has been extended to all stores and now carries over 2,400 lines
- Mezzanine floors are now in over half of all Homebase stores
- Homebase serves over 60 million customers per year, through over 300 large, out-of-town stores
- Homebase is the first national DIY chain to achieve the Government TrustMark award for its kitchen installation service
- Our 21st Century Living Project, in collaboration with the Eden Project is challenging and supporting 100 homes to live more sustainably, by reducing their energy use, water consumption and waste