

Kellogg's plans huge distribution center in Marshall County

By Jacob Steimer – Staff Reporter, Memphis Business Journal
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Kellogg Co. has leased a huge Mid-South distribution center.

The global food brand will be renting space in Marshall County's Gateway Global Logistics Center, the company confirmed Wednesday afternoon.

"Kellogg is leasing a warehouse space at the Gateway Global Logistics Center, which we expect to be operational this summer. The warehouse will be staffed by a third party," a Kellogg's spokesperson wrote in a Feb. 27 email.

The global food brand is targeting a 775,000-square-foot building — being developed by Panattoni Development Co. — in the Marshall County logistics park, according to multiple sources close to the deal.

The building will be located directly west of the 554,000-square-foot facility [that Amazon will soon occupy](#). A significant amount of site work has been done on the Kellogg's site.

The Kellogg spokesperson did not answer questions about the building's size, why it was chosen, or how many people will be employed there.

MBJ's sources, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, either did not know or declined to discuss how many people would be employed. Panattoni representatives did not provide comment for this story Wednesday.

In addition to Amazon, Kellogg's joins Pyrex's parent company, Corelle Brands, as a major employer planning a large distribution facility in Gateway Global in recent months. Corelle plans to employ about 400 people in its forthcoming, 790,000-square-foot facility.

With cheap land, abundant incentives, and quick access to I-269 and the Norfolk Southern intermodal yard in Rossville, Panattoni and other developers have leased more than 3 million square feet of industrial facilities in Marshall County, Mississippi, in the past five years. This has brought thousands of jobs just east of the small county's border with its big brother, DeSoto County.

Panattoni originally announced the Kellogg's building last month as a 554,000-square-foot speculative facility. The project was expanded to accommodate the needs of the \$13 billion maker of snacks and breakfast foods.

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Kellogg has a manufacturing plant at 2168 Frisco Ave., off Airways Boulevard south of Lamar Avenue, where 350 employees produce products such as Corn Flakes.

The Marshall County news comes less than two years after Kellogg's notified the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development it was closing a Memphis distribution center on Shelby Oaks Drive and laying off 172 employees. That May 2017 announcement was part of a larger, corporate-wide cost-cutting measure that led to about 4,500 people losing their jobs, according to *Supply Chain Dive*.

The company also has a plant in Rossville that makes Eggo waffles and currently employs 250 people; in September 2017, the company laid off 117 workers at that location.

The combined, current workforce of **600 employees** puts Kellogg as the No. 41 largest public company employer in the area, according to *Memphis Business Journal* research.