

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MAYOR EMANUEL JOINS PEAPOD TO ANNOUNCE COMPANY IS RELOCATING CORPORATE HEADOUARTERS TO CHICAGO

Larger Location and Access to Talent Will Help Leading Online Grocer Continue to Grow

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today joined Peapod, the country's leading online grocer, to announce the company is relocating its headquarters to downtown Chicago at 300 S. Riverside Plaza. This relocation to the vibrant downtown area comes as Peapod is experiencing year over year growth across all of its markets.

"Peapod is a national leader in both the food and tech industries and will be a strong addition to Chicago's thriving innovation community," Mayor Emanuel said. "In Chicago, the company can continue to expand, create new jobs and contribute to our growing economy."

"Over the last 28 years, Peapod has revolutionized the way people across the nation shop for groceries," said Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner. "My administration is proud to work with companies that embrace innovation and push our economy forward. I will continue to work hard to support great companies and make our state an even better place to do business."

"Since Peapod was founded in Chicago in 1989 as the country's first online grocer, we have always considered this city our home," Walt Lentz, acting President of Peapod said. "Moving our headquarters downtown will allow us to become a bigger part of the Chicago business community and invest in the city's diverse pool of talent while also growing our business throughout the country."

With the move, Peapod looks forward to continuing to be a supportive member of the Chicago community, including increased involvement with the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Peapod has long supported the food bank and will continue to partner through employee volunteering, fundraising and food donations.

"Every day we distribute 164,000 meals across Chicago," Kate Maehr, Executive Director and CEO of the Greater Chicago Food Depository said. "We can't do this alone and count on support from businesses such as Peapod. As a grocer, Peapod is a valuable partner and with their help, we'll continue to fight hunger in Chicago and work to ensure all of our neighbors have enough to eat."

The new location is expected to be complete in the spring of 2018, at which time the headquarters will transfer from the current Skokie, IL location. All employees at Peapod's current Skokie headquarters will be relocating to the new Chicago headquarters and Peapod is dedicated to making it a smooth transition.

With the move Peapod joins a number of other food industry leaders that have relocated to Chicago, including McDonald's, Conagra Brands, ADM, Mead Johnson, Beam Suntory, Kraft Heinz and Oscar Mayer.

For more information on Peapod, visit <u>www.Peapod.com</u> and find Peapod on <u>Twitter</u>, Facebook and Instagram.

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