From the Columbus Business First: https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2019/03/27/office-furnishings-company-enters-columbus-market.html

This office furnishings company wants a piece of Columbus' building blitz

Mar 27, 2019, 12:09pm EDT Updated: Mar 27, 2019, 3:33pm EDT

Indianapolis-based RJE Business Interiors is building a Columbus showroom and has named a local leader.

The company, which designs and builds office spaces, has signed a lease for 5,600 square feet at 234 N. 5th St., where it will co-locate with its manufacturing partner, Kroll Inc. RJE will have five employees to start when it opens in July but both companies will grow employment from there, according to an email from RJE's marketing director.



RJE BUSINESS INTERIORS

Tarra Aufderheide, who previously managed healthcare and education business for Knoll, has been named president of RJE's Columbus business.

Tarra Aufderheide, who previously managed healthcare and education business for Knoll, has been named president of RJE's Columbus business. She's a Columbus native and brings "entrepreneurial spirit, wealth of industry knowledge and vast expertise" to the role, RJE's CEO, Denny Sponsel, said in a news release.

The company is an integrated office space design firm that also handles project management, warehousing, moving, installation and maintenance. RJE has done business in Ohio since 2009, but operated largely out of a Cincinnati office. It also has offices in Fort Wayne, Louisville and Lexington.

With a local presence, the company says it wants to connect with the city's active construction industry. Dodge Data & Analytics estimated last year nearly \$2.5 billion in new commercial construction projects started in the Columbus market, among \$5 billion in new construction projects overall.

"We hope to grow our footprint in the Arch City by partnering with the city's talented architecture and design community to create impactful workspaces for the many organizations that call Columbus home," Sponsel said in a statement.

The company worked with Matt Gregory with NAI Ohio Equities to lease the space, which is in downtown's warehouse district and home to a few other professional services firms.

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