

LEADERSHIP. SUCCESS. FAMILY. FOR 60 YEARS

"The six decades linking January 1957 and January 2017 chronicle a business driven toward the future, compelled by innovation and unfailingly committed to the industry we love and lead."

Jeffrey L. Portman, Sr.

January
1957

Architect-developer John Portman stages his first furniture market in the garage of downtown Atlanta's Belle Isle Building.

1961

Atlanta Merchandise Mart (Now AmericasMart Building 1) opens as the first unit of the Atlanta Market Center. 22 stories.

1988

Atlanta Apparel Mart expansion opens. 15 stories.

1996

Atlanta Market Center rebranded as AMERICASMART ATLANTA to establish the market's new global trademark.

1992

Atlanta Gift Mart (AmericasMart Building 2) opens. 18 stories built on 5-story parking garage.



Original Atlanta Merchandise Mart Building, 1961



Building 1 lobby, 1961



John C. Portman, Jr., Atlanta Apparel Market, 1979



Market registration, 1984

When The Atlanta International Gift and Home Furnishings Market® opens for business at AmericasMart Atlanta on January 10, 2017, the global retail and design community will celebrate the 60th consecutive winter show under continuous Portman Family ownership and management and the latest and largest in a continuing legacy of industry-leading market events.

Founded in 1957, AmericasMart is the nation’s leading gift, home furnishings, area rug and apparel marketplace, designed to create a unique business environment.

“While the nature of the home, rug, gift and apparel industries has evolved with unimaginable speed over those 60 years, our mission sustains the course set by our founding compass: to create markets of necessity powering the growth of the tens of thousands of buyers and sellers choosing to do business here. That was, is and forever will be our passion,” says Jeffrey L. Portman, Sr., vice chairman, president and chief operating officer of the AmericasMart marketplace envisioned and founded by his father, John C. Portman, Jr., who continues as chairman and chief executive officer.

Images courtesy of The Portman Archives, LLC and AmericasMart

1968

Merchandise Mart first expansion opens.

1979

Atlanta Apparel Mart (Now AmericasMart Building 3) opens.

1986

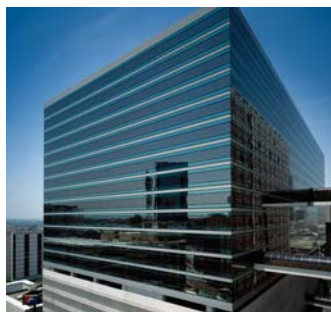
Merchandise Mart second expansion opens.

2009

AmericasMart Building 2 West Wing opens.
10 stories with expansion capacity to 18 stories.

2017

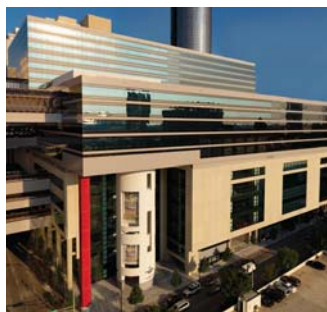
The best is yet to come!



Gift Mart (Building 2) opens, 1992



Atlanta Apparel Market Atrium Fashion Show, 2015



Building 2 Expansion opens, 2009



John Portman Boulevard Dedication, 2011

