

## Consumer Buzz

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### Walmart Reveals Next-Gen Stores

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New Walmart test stores in Texas and Florida are using technology and new layouts to enhance the shopping experience. According to Walmart's blog, "Scan & Go" technology is being implemented to hasten the checkout process. The technology allows customers to check out using their smartphones or handheld devices provided by the store and avoid the traditional checkout lines. A drive-thru pickup option will streamline grocery shopping trips, as well as online order and prescription pickups. Interactive screens will be placed throughout the stores to allow customers to shop for online-only products. In addition, consumers who need help from an associate will have access to a Wi-Fi call button that alerts employees via GPS-enabled wearable devices. **GP**