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EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES G.W. LISK TO EXPAND OPERATIONS IN ONTARIO COUNTY

R&D Expansion Will Allow Company To Hire 40 New Employees In the Finger Lakes Region

Investment Complements “Finger Lakes Forward” – Region’s Successful Upstate Revitalization Initiative Blueprint to Grow the Economy and Create New Opportunities

Empire State Development today announced that G.W. Lisk, a manufacturer of electromechanical products, will expand its research and development operations in Phelps, Ontario County. The expansion will result in the creation 40 new jobs within the next five years and retention of more than 650 employees at the company’s other facilities in Ontario County.

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky said, “G.W. Lisk has been woven into the fabric of the Finger Lakes region for more than a century and has established itself as a worldwide leader in the electromechanical industry. Thanks to Governor Cuomo’s tireless efforts to support upstate, G.W. Lisk will be able to continue to grow its operations, allowing them to maintain their competitive edge in the high-tech manufacturing industry.”

The project, which is expected to be completed in spring 2017, will include the renovation of the company’s 17,000 square foot research and development facility and the purchase of new equipment.

G.W. Lisk President & CEO Edward Maier said, “This project will re-purpose an existing, underutilized facility into a state-of-the-art research and product development center to drive future growth at Lisk. The building will serve to both consolidate and expand Lisk’s existing advanced development and test capabilities.”

In order to encourage G.W. Lisk to expand in Upstate New York, Empire State Development has offered up to \$600,000 in performance-based Excelsior Jobs Program tax credits, which are directly tied to the creation of 40 new jobs while maintaining the company’s statewide workforce levels.

Senator Mike Nozzolio said, “G.W. Lisk is a Finger Lakes company with a worldwide reputation for excellence. They are to be commended for their continued expansion

and efforts to grow jobs right here in the Finger Lakes Region. This type of continued economic development is crucial to the sustainability of our region. G.W. Lisk partners with the Finger Lakes Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Program which offers training opportunities to its students. Participants in the program gain actual field experience in a manufacturing setting and a majority of the students accept jobs with the company following graduation. G.W. Lisk is to be commended for its focus on the development of new, well paying jobs for our region.”

Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb said, “G.W. Lisk’s continued growth and success is wonderful news for the Finger Lakes region. It’s critical that state directs resources and investments to help companies like G.W. Lisk evolve and thrive. This is a great example of a public-private partnership resulting in more jobs and increased opportunities for our area.”

Ontario County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jack Marren said, “I would like to thank Governor Cuomo for his constant support for the Finger Lakes region. G.W. Lisk is an extremely important part of the Ontario County community. We applaud their expansion plans, and their on-going partnership with Finger Lakes Community College which is busy working to train employees for the type of high tech jobs G.W. Lisk has to offer.”

G.W. Lisk represents over 130 years of innovation. In 1882, the Lisk Company was formed and began designing and manufacturing bakeware. By 1910, George Washington Lisk had opened a small sheet metal shop on a portion of land that their current U.S. headquarters now occupies in Clifton Springs, New York. There, the company started out in 1910 making cake pans, tin pails and spraying devices. Over one hundred years later, those utilitarian goods have been replaced by electromechanical products used in the aerospace, defense, on/off highway, and oil & gas markets. The company also has facilities in Ireland and China.

For more information on G.W. Lisk click [here](#)

Accelerating Finger Lakes Forward

Today's announcement complements “Finger Lakes Forward,” the region’s comprehensive blueprint to generate robust economic growth and community development. The State has already invested more than \$3.4 billion in the region since 2012 to lay the groundwork for the plan – investing in key industries including photonics, agriculture and food production, and advanced manufacturing. Today, unemployment is down to the lowest levels since before the Great Recession; personal and corporate income taxes are down; and businesses are choosing places like Rochester, Batavia and Canandaigua as a destination to grow and invest in.

Now, the region is accelerating Finger Lakes Forward with a \$500 million State investment through the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, announced by Governor Cuomo in December 2015. The State’s \$500 million investment will incentivize private business

to invest well over \$2.5 billion – and the region’s plan, as submitted, projects up to 8,200 new jobs. More information is available [here](#).

About Empire State Development

Empire State Development is New York’s chief economic development agency. The mission of ESD is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the State and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits, and other forms of financial assistance, ESD strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. ESD is also the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo’s Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of “I Love NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, visit <http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov> and www.esd.ny.gov.

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