

For Immediate Release: December 1, 2009

Contact: Warner Johnston | wjohnston@empire.state.ny.us | 1.800.260.7313
Katie Krawczyk | kkrawczyk@empire.state.ny.us | 1.800.260.7313

**CONCORD TEXTILE TO RENOVATE FACILITY ON BUFFALO'S EAST SIDE,
CREATING 80 NEW JOBS**

*Company to manufacture new, innovative green products and equipment
for the garment care industry*

Empire State Development today announced that Concord Textile Care Products, Inc.—a manufacturer of products and equipment for the professional garment cleaning industry—will invest \$1.14 million to renovate and equip an 88,000 square foot building at 144 Urban Street in Buffalo to manufacture the company's new line of green "wet-cleaning" products. This renovation and expansion project will create 80 well-paying positions, with an average salary of \$36,000 annually.

"This project is quite significant in many regards," said Empire State Development Chairman & CEO, designate, Dennis M. Mullen. "First, Concord Textile is poised to be the leader in supplying the garment care industry with innovative, green cleaning compounds and machines that stand to revolutionize the industry. Second, this type of investment will not only help stimulate the local economy with such innovation and the creation of several good-paying jobs, but what's more, it will also be a cornerstone for positive community development in a historically impoverished section of Buffalo's East Side. It is exactly these kinds of win-win projects that are important for New York State to capitalize on. I am very pleased that ESD could be a part of such an important investment for both Concord Textile and for the City of Buffalo."

The newly renovated building on Urban Street will allow Concord Textile to manufacture cleaning compounds, conversion kits for converting existing solvent-based cleaning machines to the water-based formula, as well as wire hangers and finishing equipment. Further, a portion of this building will be utilized for the company to offer nationwide training to companies that purchase Concord Textile's new wet-cleaning agents and equipment. Renovation of the building is expected to be complete by summer 2010.

Concord Textile President Boris Dawudian said: "Concord is very excited about locating here in Buffalo, as it's a highly livable city on so many levels. We'd like to thank Empire State Development – they were vital for making the numbers for Buffalo work, as well as Mayor Brown's Economic Development Staff and Commissioner Brian Reilly for coordinating so much

of the process. And the NCCC SBDC has been indispensable in providing technical assistance, business planning and strategic guidance throughout every stage of this project.”

Concord Textile has been awarded a \$275,000 capital grant from ESD for this project and has obtained Regionally Significant Zone Status for inclusion in the Buffalo Empire Zone. Five years from the completion of this project, Concord Textile Care Products has a projection to generate \$13.3 million in revenues, employ over 100 people and have over \$3 million invested in real estate, machinery and equipment in New York State.

City of Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown said: “The City of Buffalo is proud to welcome Concord and we look forward to the ribbon-cutting for our city’s newest GREEN business. We are pleased to announce Concord has been approved for approximately \$1.1 million in Empire Zone benefits and Commercial Revitalization Deductions (CRD), a tax credit for businesses in this Renewal Community.”

Niagara County Community College Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Assistant Director & Business Advisor David Curtin said: “The Concord Textile Care project is one of our larger ‘Enterprise Projects’ here at the Niagara County Community College SBDC. And as a ‘green technology’ venture, it involved so many unique and challenging factors, requiring at its core a scalable and profitable business model – an essential element many ‘green projects’ lack. I am very pleased to be part of the team that helped develop this and bring this project to fruition in Western New York. I know the company seriously evaluated other regions, but without Empire State Development (especially Project Manager Will Welisevich) and the personal attention the SBDC was able to give to the project, Concord Textile would likely have headquartered elsewhere.”

Established in 2008, Concord Textile has been the developer and manufacturer of several proprietary and exclusive textile cleaning compound products and processes for the fabricare and garment care industry. The wet-cleaning process eliminates the hazardous materials and environmental issues associated with traditional dry-cleaning methods, primarily Perchloroethylene (“PERC”). Wet-cleaning products are water-based and non-toxic, which offers this heavily regulated industry an environmentally friendly option.

Empire State Development is New York’s chief economic development agency. ESD also oversees the marketing of “I LOVE NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information, visit www.nylovesbiz.com.

###