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**EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES BONADENT WILL INVEST AND  
EXPAND IN SENECA COUNTY**

*Dental Laboratory's \$11 million project will retain 138 positions and create 90 new jobs*

Empire State Development (ESD) and BonaDent, Inc. today announced that the family-owned, independent, full-service dental laboratory will expand its operations in Seneca County to support the growing company's need for more space in order to accommodate 90 new employees and equipment. BonaDent will purchase and renovate the former Wal-Mart facility, located on a lot adjacent to its headquarters, in Seneca Falls. BonaDent had also considered a possible expansion at its manufacturing facility in Melbourne, Florida.

“With a 60-year tradition of manufacturing innovative dental products here in New York State, it would have been an unfortunate loss if BonaDent left the state for another location,” said ESD Chairman & CEO Dennis M. Mullen. “ESD and its local partners provided a competitive incentive package that will not only retain and create good jobs, but also provide taxes paid in the local economy and ongoing supplies, materials and services totaling millions of dollars from local and regional business and vendors. This is one of the country's most technologically equipped and well-resourced labs and we're proud the company calls New York State home.”

The \$11 million project includes building acquisition; renovations; site work; acquisition and installation of equipment; and soft costs. BonaDent currently produces dental restorations in a 40,000 square foot facility in the Town of Seneca Falls. It is the second largest privately held company of its type in the United States, employing 138 workers at this location, including some of the nation's most skilled dental technicians and professionals.

A \$750,000 convertible loan from the ESD Upstate Regional Blueprint Fund will be used to purchase and install equipment and/or building renovations and site work. The state and local funding provides the needed incentive for the company to expand in Seneca County.

“These state and local loans and incentives will help BonaDent obtain the necessary new technologies and equipment that will allow us to compete with competitor labs that outsource their work offshore to places like China,” said BonaDent President Bruce H. Bonafiglia. “By investing locally and expanding our family owned dental lab, we'll be able to retain and attract the best dental professionals in the industry. Our company has achieved a high level of success

within the dental lab industry and we have been able to do so by creating opportunities for advancement to all of the local workers that make up our team.”

BonaDent was founded approximately 60 years ago by President Bruce Bonafiglia’s father, Angelo, and his grandfather, Henry. In addition to state of the art on-site training facilities, its headquarters location also houses a daycare facility.

“Special thanks to Empire State Development’s Dennis Mullen and Robert McNary whose continued contributions with the project applications and negotiations proved to be integral in our decision to make this major investment here in New York State rather than in Florida,” Bonafiglia said. “The Seneca County IDA team, with the collaboration of Seneca County and the Town of Seneca Falls in partnership with ESD, worked diligently to keep our company’s expansion here and I strongly believe that without the IDA’s assistance this project may not have become a reality. Senator Michael Nozzolio and Assemblyman Brian Kolb were key in explaining our company’s value and job creation history to state officials.”

Empire State Development is New York’s chief economic development agency and administrator of the statewide business resource portal New York First ([www.NYfirst.NY.gov](http://www.NYfirst.NY.gov)). ESD is committed to being recognized on a global scale as the economic development engine driving job growth, strategic investment and prosperity in New York State. ESD is intent on paving the way for New York State to become the leader of the innovation economy and one of the most business friendly, productive and competitive economic development climates in the world. ESD also oversees the marketing of “I LOVE NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Empire State Development, visit [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov).

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