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**Contact:** Chyresse L. Wells | [Chyresse.Wells@esd.ny.gov](mailto:Chyresse.Wells@esd.ny.gov) | (800) 260-7313

## **Empire State Development Announced Ace Hardware Corporation Will Expand In New York's Capital Region**

*The World's Largest Hardware Cooperative Retains 292 Jobs and Creates 25 New Jobs in NY*

Empire State Development (ESD) announced that Ace Hardware Corporation, the world's largest hardware cooperative, will expand with a new Retail Support Center in Saratoga County at 55 Northern Pines Road in Gansevoort, New York.

The soon-to-be expanded facility, part of the organization's supply chain network of facilities strategically located across the globe, is made possible with Empire State Development's Excelsior Jobs Program investment of up to \$500,000 for Ace Hardware's commitment of 25 new jobs to the region. Ace warehouses supply merchandise to the more than 4,800 Ace Hardware retail stores worldwide. The Retail Support Center in Gansevoort, N.Y. is responsible for supplying merchandise to nearly 500 retail stores in more than nine states.

"We are very excited that Ace Hardware has chosen to build their new retail support center in New York's Capital Region," said ESD President, CEO and Commissioner Howard Zemsky. "It's clear that Ace Hardware's commitment to expand and create jobs will have a positive, lasting impact on the Saratoga County community."

Part of a multi-million dollar investment from Ace Hardware Corporation, the facility's expansion will take place over the next 24 months and will accommodate up to 400,000 sq. ft. of new warehouse space. Fueled by demand as a result of Ace's record growth and financial performance, Ace will also add new jobs over the next several years to meet business and facility needs. Ace expects a number of construction jobs to be brought to the region to complete the expansion.

Ace Hardware conducted a rigorous phase of due diligence, where opportunities from surrounding states were presented for relocation consideration. "Ace has been a part of the Wilton and Gansevoort communities for nearly two decades; we were compelled to remain a part of this county's business landscape and Ace looks forward to continued growth and collaboration with Saratoga County and the town of Wilton, N.Y.," said Rick Whitson, Vice President of Distribution, Ace Hardware Corporation.

Ace Hardware will break ground on the facility's expansion in the fourth quarter of 2015. Once complete, this warehouse facility will become one of the largest in Ace's network of Retail Support Centers, at an estimated 1.2 million sq. ft.

### **About Ace Hardware**

For more than 90 years, Ace Hardware has been known as the place with the helpful hardware folks in thousands of neighborhoods across America, providing customers with a more personal kind of helpful. In 2015, Ace ranked "Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Home Improvement Retail Stores, Nine Years in a Row," according to J.D. Power. With more than 4,800 hardware stores locally owned and operated across the globe, Ace is the largest retailer-owned hardware cooperative in the world. Headquartered in Oak Brook, Ill., Ace and its subsidiaries currently operate 17 distribution centers in the U.S. and also have distribution capabilities in Shanghai, China; Panama City, Panama; and Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Its retailers' stores are located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and approximately 60 countries. For more information on Ace, visit [www.acehardware.com](http://www.acehardware.com).

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