

## **Empire State Development News**

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### **FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE**

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## **IMPRESS USA BREAKS GROUND IN CONKLIN, NY FOR \$30 MILLION METAL MANUFACTURING FACILITY**

### **Empire State Development and state Office of Community Renewal earmark \$1.5 million for project to expand Broome County's manufacturing base**

Empire State Development (ESD), Impress USA Inc. and the Broome County IDA broke ground today for Impress's new metal packaging facility in Conklin, New York. The company, a global market leader in the consumer metal packaging industry, will initially invest approximately \$30 million to build the manufacturing plant, which will cover 91,000 square feet and ultimately employ approximately 75 people. The plant is being constructed to allow for a second phase of expansion after which employment could eventually be doubled.

"Impress's decision to construct a new manufacturing facility in our State is a huge win for New Yorkers," said ESD Chairman & CEO, designate, Dennis M. Mullen. "This was a pure attraction project driven by the need to accommodate industry growth and market demands. ESD's participation was a major factor in Impress's decision to locate its new facility in Broome County. We look forward to this international company energizing the manufacturing industry in Broome County and New York State."

ESD and the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal each awarded Impress a \$750,000 grant. The Broome County IDA awarded the company \$650,000 in loans and property tax assistance. The new plant will provide Impress customers with a range of modern metal packaging products for the human food and pet food market segments.

Impress North America President Dennis Kester said: "We chose Conklin and Broome County, New York, because the local and state governments are very supportive and helpful. We also were impressed with the availability of a good work force, educational institutions and ease of transportation."

Impress CEO Francis Labbé added: "North America has been a good region for us to do business and we continue to see good growth opportunities. We are excited at this next step in our development. The effort and support offered by New York State has been a major factor in our decision to locate to Conklin."

State Division of Housing and Community Renewal Commissioner Deborah VanAmerongen said: "We are pleased to join with our partners at Empire State Development and Broome County to help Impress USA make their new home on the Southern Tier in the Town of Conklin. This project is another example of an effective private/public partnership that is creating jobs for New York's working families and affirms, internationally, that New York State is a great place to live, work and invest."

Senator Tom Libous said: "This new facility provides an excellent opportunity for our community's talented workforce. Attracting new business is key in getting New York's economy back on the right track."

Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch said: "I am pleased to have Impress locate their facility in Conklin. It is good to see manufacturing jobs come into Broome County. I thank Impress for recognizing the quality of our workforce; I know they will not be disappointed. I also thank the Governor and Empire State Development for their work in bringing Impress here."

Broome County Executive Barbara J. Fiala said: "We are excited to welcome Impress to our community and to the Broome County Corporate Park. Today's groundbreaking for Impress USA delivers a top manufacturing company to our community. We anxiously await construction and soon after, Impress USA's production and distribution operations here in Greater Binghamton. This means more jobs in our community and more opportunity for growth. We are committed to their success and are thrilled they have chosen Broome County as the base for their new operations!"

Town of Conklin Supervisor Debra A. Preston said: "We are ecstatic about Impress coming here and they are a great company. We look forward to working with them and are confident they will be a great corporate neighbor."

Broome County Industrial Development Agency Executive Director Richard D'Attilio said: "Impress is a global leader in can manufacturing. The company's decision to locate in Greater Binghamton is a major win that makes a strong statement about our workforce, our location and our commitment to manufacturing companies."

Impress is a global market leader in the consumer metal packaging industry. It is the worldwide leader in the seafood can market, European and Australian leader for aerosol cans, European leader in cans for paints and coatings and European leader in cans for infant formula and nutritional powders. The company is also the second largest supplier of heat processed food cans in Europe and Australasia. Impress is based in Deventer, the Netherlands and has worldwide sales of approximately €1.8 billion. It employs approximately 7,600 people in 56 facilities in 21 countries in Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Japan, Seychelles and Morocco. For more information, visit [www.impressgroup.com](http://www.impressgroup.com). 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](http://www.nylovesbiz.com).

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