

Empire State Development News

Press Office

(716) 856-8111

www.nylovesbiz.com

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

2/29/2008

ESD PROVIDES GRANT TO UTICA BUSINESS

AustinMohawk, Inc. Makes Substantial Investment in Equipment

Empire State Development Upstate Chairman Daniel C. Gundersen today announced that a \$25,000 capital grant was committed to AustinMohawk and Company Inc. to assist the company in the purchase and installation of new machinery and equipment. The \$215,000 project pledges to retain 49 jobs and create two new jobs at the Utica facility within three years.

"AustinMohawk and Company Inc.'s substantial investment will allow the company to continue to grow in the highly competitive marketplace," stated Chairman Gundersen. "It has a solid reputation as a leading manufacturer of prefabricated metal structures, counting Harvard University, West Point, the Federal Reserve Bank and McDonalds, to name a few, among its customers. I'm confident that AustinMohawk will continue to have a bright future in the Mohawk Valley Region."

Austin Mohawk and Company, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of pre-engineered structures including security buildings, shelters, and canopy systems. Established in 1924, the company is located in the City of Utica's Empire Zone.

"This equipment will expand our capacity and increase the quality of our finished products as well as reduce our fabrication time. Ultimately we expect this will help us increase our workforce significantly as our sales grow in the security building area," stated John Millet, Jr., president, AustinMohawk and Company.

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency, encompassing business, workforce and community development. ESD also oversees the marketing of "I LOVE NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information, visit www.nylovesbiz.com.

###