

Empire State Development News

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UNIFRAX I LLC TO EXPAND WITH NEW INVESTMENT AND JOBS

Empire State Development to Assist with \$1.5 million Grant

Empire State Development Upstate Chairman Daniel C. Gundersen today announced that a \$1.5 million grant was committed to Unifrax I LLC. The grant will be used to purchase new production equipment for a \$20 million expansion at the Tonawanda manufacturing facility.

"Unifrax has been manufacturing industrial products in New York State since 1996, employing nearly 300 people at its three Western New York locations," said Chairman Gundersen. "This expansion will support increased sales and production output by 30 to 40 percent with a pledge to create 50 new jobs over the next two years at the Tonawanda facility. This project clearly represents yet another corporate statement of confidence in the future of Upstate New York."

Headquartered in Niagara Falls, New York, Unifrax is a leading global manufacturer of ceramic fiber insulation products used in many high-temperature industrial, automotive and fire protection applications. The company has 14 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America and employs approximately 1,200 people worldwide.

The Tonawanda site and several international Unifrax locations were considered for the expansion project. An outstanding performance record, existing production expertise and a quality workforce all contributed to the decision to expand the Tonawanda facility.

"Unifrax anticipates an increase in the demand for its products used in emissions control devices on vehicles," said Unifrax President and CEO David E. Brooks. "This expansion will provide the increased production capacity necessary to meet the growing demand of our emissions control customers around the world."

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.

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