



For Immediate Release - December 9, 2005

NEWS: Buffalo Niagara Enterprise

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Audubon Machinery Corp Opens New North Tonawanda Headquarters

20 new jobs created at former brownfield site

North Tonawanda, NY – Audubon Machinery Corporation today officially opened its new manufacturing facility in North Tonawanda’s Wurlitzer Industrial Park.

Audubon Machinery Corporation, will shift operations to the Wurlitzer Industrial Park in the city of North Tonawanda, where it will combine subsidiary operations of Oxygen Generating Systems International (OGSI) with the recently acquired Schlyer Machinery Company of Wilson, NY. A minimum of 20 new jobs will be created and 22 existing positions will be retained.

Audubon invested more than \$2 million in construction of the new 40,000 square foot plant on the former industrial brownfield site. The company anticipates receiving a Certified Green Building status from the U.S. Green Building Council. Currently, there are only five other certified buildings in western New York.

“We started our business in Western New York and we intend to keep and grow it here,” said Joseph McMahan, Audubon Machinery President. “We greatly appreciate the efforts and assistance given to us by city and regional officials as well as from the economic development agencies.”

Buffalo Niagara Enterprise (BNE) coordinated the site selection process and the economic incentive package developed by the City of North Tonawanda, Niagara County Industrial Development Agency (NCIDA) and New York State Energy Research and Development Agency (NYSERDA). The financial package includes brownfields tax credits and other tax credits and incentives. In addition, Empire State Development is providing a Linked Deposit Program.

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Page 2 - Audubon Machinery Corp. Grand Opening

North Tonawanda Mayor David Burgio stated his pleasure in working with BNE, the NCIDA and Audubon Machinery Corp. on the site selection and new building plans. “How lucky we are in western New York to have so many people focused in on doing what’s good for this area as whole,” stated Mayor Burgio. “This attitude will bring nothing but good for all of us in Western New York.”

“The Audubon Machinery decision is further evidence that the Buffalo Niagara region offers an outstanding selection of resources to help its businesses grow,” said BNE President and CEO Thomas Kucharski. “We have the sites, the skilled workforce and the financial incentives to help companies like Audubon Machinery compete on a global level.”

Mr. McMahon also expressed appreciation for the assistance given over the years from Niagara County Community College’s Small Business Development Center, “From helping us to build a business plan to assistance with grant applications, Deanna Brennen and her team have been an invaluable resource for us.”

OGSI manufactures on-site oxygen systems for medical and industrial applications and sells to more than 60 countries worldwide. In 2000, the company was named New York State Exporter of the Year by the Small Business Administration and Exporter of the Year by World Trade Center Buffalo Niagara. In 2001, the company made Inc. Magazine’s list of 500 fastest growing companies.

The Schlyer Machinery Company manufactures glassware and bottle washers and dryers in addition to a full line of cage and rack washing equipment for research centers.

Buffalo Niagara Enterprise is the point of contact for business retention, expansion and attraction for the eight counties of western New York. For information on doing business in Buffalo Niagara, visit www.buffaloniagara.org.

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