



ALBANY-DOUGHERTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coats & Clark announces grand opening of Albany distribution hub

ALBANY, Ga., July 23, 2010 — Coats & Clark today unveiled its new 280,000-square-foot North American Distribution Hub in Albany. The company, which is consolidating all its North American distribution operations to Albany, will expand the Holly Drive facility by 120,000 square feet. Coats & Clark will hire up to 20 workers by the end of 2010 and add up to five more as it completes its expansion.

“Coats & Clark has been a member of Albany-Dougherty County’s industrial family for decades. Its investment in our community reaffirms the company’s long-term commitment to doing business in here,” said Ted Clem, president of the Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission. “In consolidating its North American distribution operations to Albany, Coats & Clark takes further advantage of our low cost-of-doing business, our skilled work force and our access to major markets. We’re honored that Coats has chosen our community as its distribution hub.”

Coats & Clark’s Albany distribution center supports its craft customer base for North America. It is located in close proximity to the Albany manufacturing location. The manufacturing facility in Albany employs more than 300 workers, whose jobs will not be affected by this expansion.

“We conducted an independent study that took into consideration our customer locations, transportation and geographic options for a distribution hub, and Albany came out on top,” said John Laurie, president of Coats & Clark. “Our relationship with Albany over the last 63 years has been excellent, and the city’s location and work force are ideally suited to our plans for growth and continued customer satisfaction.”

“Utilizing the latest technology in bar coding, radio frequency, in-line pallet preparation and conveyor systems, the Albany Distribution Center will be a state-of-the-art facility and Coats & Clark’s new North American Distribution Center. We are excited about this opportunity to continue and expand our long-time association and relationship with Albany-Dougherty County,” said Scott Rohaley, vice president of customer logistics and IT for Coats & Clark.

Coats & Clark first announced that it would make Albany-Dougherty County its North American distribution hub in November 2009.

At the morning ribbon cutting were officials from the EDC, the city of Albany and Dougherty County as well as officials from Coats & Clark, including Coats Plc CEO Paul Forman. State officials and economic development partners also were in attendance.

About the company

Coats & Clark, America's number one name in sewing and needlecraft products is a division of the world's largest thread manufacturing company, Coats plc, with products sold in more than 150 countries for industrial and home use. Coats plc employs more than 21,000 employees in 71 countries and supplies specialty thread, yarn and zipper products to Wal-Mart stores, among others. Throughout its 200-year history, Coats has established a tradition of landmark innovations in products, color technology and manufacturing processes, many of which have become global industry standards.