



ALBANY-DOUGHERTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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Coats & Clark to locate North American distribution hub in Albany

ALBANY, Ga., Nov. 23, 2009 — The Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission announced today that Coats & Clark will relocate its North American distribution hub to Albany, expanding its current distribution operations here and adding up to 25 total new jobs.

“Coats & Clark has been a member of Albany-Dougherty County’s industrial family for decades, and we are honored that the company has chosen to relocate its North American distribution hub to our community,” said Ted Clem, president of the Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission. “In expanding here, Coats & Clark takes further advantage of the affordability of doing business in Albany-Dougherty County as well as of its skilled work force. We don’t take their trust in us for granted.”

Coats & Clark will lease a 280,000-square-foot distribution center on Holly Drive in Albany to consolidate its distribution operations. Coats will hire up to 20 workers by the end of 2010 and add up to five more as it completes its expansion.

“Our research showed that Albany’s strategic location in proximity to major trucking corridors, coupled with the fact that the center is situated close to one of our major manufacturing sites, made it an excellent fit for our new North American distribution center,” said Jeff Thompson, director of human resources for Coats & Clark North America. “Our relationship with Albany over the last 62 years has been excellent, and the city’s location and work force are ideally suited to our plans for growth and continued customer satisfaction.”

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

“We welcome this additional investment by Coats and are proud that Georgia workers will continue to have the opportunity to contribute to this global company’s success,” said Ken Stewart, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Economic Development.

“Coats’ decision to expand in Albany is a strong testament to the region’s superb work force and its strategic location for commerce.”

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.

The Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission is a proactive team dedicated to the recruitment, retention and expansion of industry for Albany-Dougherty County.