

Empire State Development News

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EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES COMFORTEX WINDOW FASHIONS TO EXPAND HIGH-VALUE ENGINEERING IN CAPITAL REGION

Company will retain 200 positions and create 43 new jobs

Empire State Development (ESD) today announced that Comfortex Window Fashions will retain and expand high-value manufacturing operations at its Albany County facility in New York State. A \$400,000 convertible loan has been committed by ESD to offset the installation of five new production lines and the expansion of an existing pilot line. The leading manufacturer and fabricator of custom window treatment products is investing more than \$4 million in the project and has pledged to retain 200 jobs and create 43 new positions at its Maplewood headquarters.

Comfortex will invest in its revolutionary Individualized Production on Demand (IPOD) manufacturing method, which maximizes efficiency while minimizing materials waste, inventory and energy requirements. The project will have extensive positive environmental impacts, reducing the plant's annual energy demand by 22% and water usage by 720,000 gallons per year.

"We are thrilled that Comfortex has reaffirmed its commitment to New York State," said ESD President & CEO Marisa Lago. "For more than 20 years, the innovative company has provided quality products and services, while developing ground-breaking technologies in its Maplewood, N.Y. home. This reinvestment in Albany County will both retain a significant number of jobs and add new jobs, helping to bring economic security to the Capital Region for years to come."

"Comfortex is pleased to expand its capabilities in New York State," said Thomas J. Marusak, President of Comfortex Window Fashions. "We look forward to continuing to develop innovative window fashion products in the Capital Region."

Comfortex, an innovator in the window fashion industry, was founded in 1986. The company maintains its headquarters just north of Albany in Maplewood, New York, and operates an additional manufacturing facility in Phoenix, Arizona. The Comfortex complete line includes cellular shades, roller shades, roman shades, pleated shades, insulating blinds, wood alloy blinds, plantation shutters, sheer window shadings and verticals. These products are distributed throughout the United States and in over 70 countries. More information may be found on the company web site at <http://www.comfortex.com/>.

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency. ESD also oversees the marketing of "I LOVE NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information, visit <http://www.nylovesbiz.com/>.

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