Firm moves into new Concord Twp. HQ



The Steven Douglas Corporation celebrated the opening of its new Concord Township headquarters in early October. COURTESY OF STEVEN DOUGLAS CORP.

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The Steven Douglas Corporation recently moved to Concord Township, opening a new headquarters at 7750 Discovery Lane in early October.

"We design and build custom and special machines that are used for factory automation," said company President and Chief Executive Officer Steve Belliveau.

"We have a very diverse customer base, doing work for companies that make solar panels," he added. "We do a lot of work building machines that make medical devices, electronic components, a lot of connectors and switches, food packaging, hardware, automotive components."

The company opened in Chardon in 1998 before moving to Newbury Township in 2007, Belliveau said. Over the past 16 years, it has grown from around 15 employees to 75.

"We just outgrew our space in Newbury," he stated.

Belliveau described the new facility as having "a nice, modern look," adding that it is about three times larger than the previous headquarters.

"It's kind of sophisticated, which agrees with the type of work that we do," he added.

Belliveau mentioned the new property's "park-like setting" with walking paths for employees, as well as its proximity to employee homes.

"We like the Concord area," he said. "It's a growing area, it's new, vibrant, lots of amenities that our employees and customers will enjoy, with more choices in restaurants, hotels, good access to the freeway and closer in proximity to so many more people that are potential employees."

Belliveau described the community as "very welcoming," stating that officials helped the company navigate zoning rules and safety regulations.

He said that the planning and construction process took around two years. A small group of employees will continue to work at the Newbury Township facility until existing projects are completed this fall.

Belliveau said that the company has "room to grow and take on projects that require more floor space."

"Our current pace, we expect to be hiring five to 10 employees a year for the foreseeable future," he added.

More information is available at sdcautomation.com.

Township Administrator Andy Rose previously said that the township would receive property tax revenue from the new facility. Additionally, because the property is part of the Concord-Painesville Joint Economic Development District, the township will receive a portion of the tax revenue from its employee income and net profits.

As noted on Concord Township's JEDD page, 1.75% of employee income and company net profits will be taxed by the JEDD, with 69% of the revenue going to Concord Township, 23% to the city of Painesville and the remaining 8% to the JEDD Board.