



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
Cabinet for Economic Development

OLD CAPITOL ANNEX
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**GOVERNOR FLETCHER ANNOUNCES HOMECARE PRODUCTS TO
LOCATE OPERATIONS IN UNION COUNTY**

Startup project will boost employment opportunities by 135 in Morganfield

FRANKFORT, KY – Governor Ernie Fletcher and Economic Development Cabinet officials were in Union County today to announce the location of Homecare Products, Inc. Community leaders and company representatives were also present to announce the startup project, which will bring 135 new jobs and an investment of more than \$3 million to the region.

“Today’s announcement by Homecare Products is great news for Union County, resulting in more than one hundred employment opportunities in the northwest Kentucky region,” said Governor Fletcher. “We welcome Homecare Products to the state and look forward to working with them on future economic development opportunities.”

The company, which designs and manufactures portable wheelchair ramps and modular wheelchair ramps for residential use, will purchase and finish out a 100,000 square-foot spec building on 21 acres in the Morganfield Industrial Park.

“Homecare Products, Inc. is very excited about our new partnership with the state of Kentucky and Union County,” said Dave Baile, director of manufacturing and product development for Homecare Products. “Over the last year we have researched and negotiated with several states and local governments in an effort to secure a viable manufacturing and distribution point for our products. By a large margin, we have found Kentucky, and particularly Union County, to be more business friendly, cooperative and welcoming.”

Production plans for the Union County plant include the manufacture of a new commercial ramp line, as well as products currently produced in its Seattle

facilities. Homecare Products will also utilize the Morganfield site for distribution of its entire product line to the eastern United States. The company has indicated that all future manufacturing expansions will take place in Union County.

“Speaking on behalf of the citizens of Union County, I am grateful for the investment in our county and appreciate the job opportunities it brings,” said Union County Judge Executive Jody L. Jenkins. “I look forward to having a new family member here in Union County. We look forward to being with them during many civic and social events.”

“The announcement of Homecare Products locating here is a glowing example of what can be achieved when four counties come together in one common economic development effort,” said Jon H. Sights, chairman of the board, Northwest Kentucky Forward. “On behalf of the Northwest Kentucky Forward Board of Directors, I congratulate this outstanding company for choosing Morganfield as its new home, and welcome them with open arms to our region of this fine commonwealth.”

The Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA) preliminarily approved Homecare Products for tax benefits up to \$1.6 million under the Kentucky Industrial Development Act (KIDA), an incentive program designed to attract and expand manufacturing employment in the state.

“We were able to put the entire partnership together in less than two months,” added Baile. “This demonstrates a real commitment at all levels. We are looking forward to a long and beneficial partnership.”

A community profile for Union County can be found at the following link: <http://www.thinkkentucky.com/EDIS/cmnty/index.aspx?cw=015>.

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The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development is the primary state agency in Kentucky responsible for creating new jobs and new investment in the state. New business investment in Kentucky in 2006 totaled more than \$3.4 billion with the creation of over 18,500 new jobs. Information on available development sites, workforce training, incentive programs, community profiles, small business development and other resources is available at www.ThinkKentucky.com.

