Governor Cuomo Announces New Jobs and Investment At Eastman Business Park.

Natcore Technology invests nearly $1 million into continued growth of the former Kodak Park

Greece, NY (May 17, 2013) Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that Natcore Technology of Red Bank, New Jersey will expand its footprint and add 27 new jobs as part of an expansion project at Eastman Business Park (the former Kodak Park) in Greece, New York.

The expansion is being driven by a $914,000 company investment, supported by $500,000 over 10 years in Excelsior Jobs Program tax credits. The average wage for the jobs created will be $98,000 per year, with the entire project expected to result in $40,000,000 in wages over the 10 years of the agreement.

“We know from experience that whoever owns a technology owns its industry” said Governor Cuomo. “Unfortunately our country has often let technology, and therefore entire industries—such as television sets and digital photography-- slip away. Now Natcore’s proprietary technology gives us an opportunity for the global solar industry to be centered right here in Rochester. The Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council has worked hard to make that happen.”

“Governor Cuomo is committed to creating jobs and rebuilding the economy in Western New York, and today it is clear that Natcore Technology is contributing to this goal,” Lieutenant Governor Robert J. Duffy said. “Today’s announcement reveals more high-tech jobs and yet another economic boost at the Eastman Business Park, which will have a great impact in Rochester and the entire region. I applaud the members of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council, and all others involved, for their continued dedication and hard work to prove that New York is Open for Business.”

Chuck Provini, Natcore President & CEO echoed that global perspective, “The Empire State
Development incentive will help us to expedite the move of our technology from the lab to the factory floor. But more important was the cooperation and the persistence of the state and local officials, and of Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, in getting us where we are today. We already have our eye on the first new hire afforded by this program, with more to come. We are making major equipment investments. We are moving from university-based research into the real world."

Natcore is a R&D commercialization company that has 17 process patents and 13 pending that will dramatically improve the efficiency of solar panels while simultaneously lowering the cost of production. This expansion is a consolidation of Natcore's R&D operations in Texas, Arizona and Ohio to the Eastman Business Park in Rochester.

“Eastman Business Park is one of the Finger Lakes region’s most important industrial development sites” adds Empire State Development President, C.E.O. & Commissioner Kenneth Adams. "Governor Cuomo’s Regional Council initiative is taking New York from a state known as a frustrater of business growth to a facilitator of new business and private sector job development."

Natcore’s home, Eastman Business Park (EBP) is the large industrial park formerly known as Kodak Park. For the last two years, the redevelopment of EBP has been voted the top priority of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council (FLREDC). This project will allow Natcore to expand its footprint by an additional 20,000 square feet for the purpose of commercializing its "black silicon" technology.

This technology is licensed from the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Lab, and promises to assist solar cell manufacturers in producing cheaper, more efficient solar cells. This type of alternative energy R&D/value-added business directly aligns with the goals of the energy innovation sector within the FLREDC strategic plan, and will result in creating very high-salaried scientist and technician positions.

Empire State Development is New York’s chief economic development agency and administrator of the statewide business resource portal, New York First (www.NYfirst.NY.gov). The mission of Empire State Development is to promote business investment and growth that leads to job creation and prosperous communities across New York State. ESD also oversees the marketing of “I LOVE NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Empire State Development, visit www.esd.ny.gov.