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**Lexington Manufacturing Company (LMC) celebrates move to new, more efficient facility**

**LEXINGTON, KY. (September 2022)** – Lexington Manufacturing Center, LMC, moved its operations to a new facility better suited to meet their manufacturing and warehousing needs. Commerce Lexington Inc. joined LMC and parent company Opportunity for Work and Learning (OWL) executives to celebrate the grand opening of the company's new in Lexington.

The Lexington Manufacturing Center (LMC) is a for-profit company owned by OWL that provides a variety of manufacturing services on the local, national, and international level. LMC also serves as a training ground for OWL program participants when appropriate- allowing them to earn income, gain work experience, and receive real world skills training.

"Over the last decade, our capabilities and opportunities increased, requiring us to seek a more suitable space for continued growth," Tony Higgins, President, and CEO, said of the move.

On September 1, 1961, Opportunity Workshop of Lexington, Inc. (OWL) was established as a workshop for individuals with severe disabilities, operating in a humble 3,500 square foot warehouse in downtown Lexington. By 2003, OWL had successfully met requirements for its Quality Management System for ISO- 9001:2000 Certification and the manufacturing department was renamed Lexington Manufacturing Center. In 2016, LMC became a wholly owned, for-profit subsidiary of OWL. This allowed for LMC to become a community-based integrated employer.

"At the time of the move, LMC was operating out of four different buildings. We had inadequate loading docks, which really decreased our time and energy efficiency," explained LMC Director LG Litteral. "Along with the benefits of relocating to a more modern and up-to-date building, this new facility allows us to increase our logistics capability. Warehousing provides sustainability in today's volatile workforce."

With 63,000 square feet of space, 30-foot clear height throughout, and multiple docks, this new facility better suits the manufacturing and warehousing services LMC provides. This move increased warehousing capabilities from 1500 pallet locations to 5000, and created new jobs, adding 26 new employees. LMC is currently used by companies such as Schneider Electric, Webasto, SRC Lexington, Cintas, and others.

"I am so proud of the work done by Opportunity Workshop of Lexington," said Mayor Linda Gorton. "The organization is important to our community, providing an opportunity for those with disabilities to expand their



work and life skills and earn income at the same time. Congratulations on the new Lexington Manufacturing Center facility.”

LMC does more than create employment opportunities for the community and those we serve though. Profits made by LMC are shared with OWL to help provide funding for the nonprofit programs and services.

Commerce Lexington Inc. President and CEO, Bob Quick, said, “Congratulations to Lexington Manufacturing Center (LMC) on the opening of its new facility. We appreciate the commitment of LMC to our community and the role it plays in our economy, both in terms of the services and the vital real-world skills training it offers. This new facility will enable LMC to provide even more opportunities to people throughout our community and region.”

For more information about OWL and LMC, visit [www.owlinc.net](http://www.owlinc.net).

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