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STATE MOVES TO SAVE OVER 600 JOBS

CLARK COUNTY COMPANY TO EXPAND MANUFACTURING EFFORTS AND RETAIN 315 POSITIONS

COLUMBUS—State Senator Chris Widener (R- Springfield) today announced that the state Development Financing Advisory Council (DFAC) has approved economic development loans and assistance to a total of six companies across Ohio that have committed to creating 265 new jobs, retaining 114 at-risk jobs, and retaining an additional 316 positions. These companies from across Ohio will invest over \$1.3 million of private capital in addition to the \$9.8 million committed by the Ohio Department of Development.

Specifically, \$1.7 million was released to the Springfield-based company, Tech II, to purchase the 200,000 square foot, former Rittal facility to expand their manufacturing capabilities in Ohio. The approval provides essential assistance in keeping Tech II in Ohio and retaining 315 at-risk, full time jobs.

“Facilitating a company’s ability to move into a larger facility will help them retain the over 300 employees they have now; the new facility will also enable the company to expand and create jobs in the future,” said Widener, who is also a member of DFAC. “Tech II is an Ohio business that has adapted with the needs of the national market place and is now bringing new technologies to Springfield. It is truly exciting to see small businesses grow in our communities.”

The company will be responsible for a contribution of \$393,750, for a total investment of \$2.3 million, which includes a \$200,000 ODOD grant. The purchase of a larger facility will support the company’s current production needs and help facilitate an upcoming expansion initiative to introduce a European technology to North America. Tech II will be the first manufacturer in North America to utilize this process.

Founded in 1969 by Ohio native Gerald Shiffer, Tech II made its way from computer memory cases and aircraft lighting parts to packaging for the food industry, which is now its dominant market. According to the Department of Development, Tech II is a growth oriented company that hopes to double in size in the next ten years.

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Senator Chris Widener serves the people of the 10th Senate District, which includes Clark, Greene and Madison counties. He is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and a member of the Senate Ways & Means & Economic Development, Government Oversight & Reform, and Rules & Reference committees.

