

PRESS RELEASE
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Ashland Business Park Seeing Increased Investment

Ashland Conveyor Products Breaks Ground on New Facility in Business Park

Ashland Conveyor Products has been producing quality conveyors for over 35 years, and under the current ownership since 1998. They offer a standard line of gravity roller, skatewheel, telescoping, powered belt conveyors, and ball transfer, along with a complete selection of conveyor stands and accessories. They have developed many products over the years in response to client needs in retail, automotive, and distribution facilities.

In 1999 the firm moved to Ashland, leasing a custom-designed building on Enterprise Parkway. Now the firm is poised for even more growth as they break ground on a facility that the company will own and manage in the Ashland Business Park. Built on 6.1 acres just east of Novatex North America, Ashland Conveyor will continue to employ 27 individuals in a 50,000 square foot facility, with plenty of room for expansion. According to company management, the new location and facility, constructed by Simonson Construction, will provide increased efficiencies and growth opportunities, and their ownership position further enhances their commitment to the Ashland area.

Ashland Railway Begins Construction on Rail Spur to Business Park

Ashland Railway, in cooperation with the Community Improvement Corporation of Ashland, Ohio is utilizing monies remaining from the State's original railroad grant to construct a north-south spur from their main line to Faultless Drive. The rail will be placed immediately west of the new Lippert Enterprises facility (former Hospira warehouse). The spur will allow prospective business park tenants to negotiate directly with Ashland Railway regarding usage of the railroad and/or extension of the spur to their respective facility. The project makes the Business Park much more marketable as a rail-served business development location, complete with available infrastructure and appropriate zoning. The project is also another great example of using the CIC as a conduit for funding that enhances our economic development assets. Bret Lloyd, Sales and Marketing Director for Ashland Railway, stated that "We see a strong need for a partnership between economic development agencies and our company to advance the regional economy. The installation of the spur will be a key asset that allows us to serve industry in Ashland County."

According to Mayor Glen Stewart, "Both projects are indicators of faith in the Ashland Business Park as well as a longer term positive view of the local economy. We are certainly pleased that Ashland Conveyor selected the Business Park for their expansion as well as their use of local contractors for site preparation as well as the construction of their building. The railroad spur certainly enhances the attractiveness of the park to a wider range of prospects, and again we are pleased to have been able to partner with Lippert Enterprises, thus allowing the spur to cross their land on the west side. We are pleased to see this additional activity in Ashland's Business Park; this kind of activity means jobs."