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**COMMUNITY COOPERATION HELPS MAKE
NEW FOUNDATIONS DISTRIBUTION FACILITY A REALITY**

Medina—Foundations® Children's Products, a commercial children's products company headquartered in Medina, began operations on September 17 at its new \$3.7 million, 63,000 sq. ft., state-of-the-art distribution center recently completed in Portside Corporate Park off Route 18. According to Foundations president Joe Lawlor, the creation of Foundations' new national distribution center was made possible with the cooperation of local government officials, community leaders, bankers, and private business.

“Several individuals and groups provided key support for construction of our new facility, including National City Bank, the Medina County Economic Development Corporation, Sharon Township Trustees, Highland Local School Board, Medina County Commissioners, and Simmons Brothers Construction. The backing of these participants for tax abatements and their partnership approach were major components in making this project possible for which we are very appreciative,” said Lawlor.

Aggressive growth at Foundations stimulated the need for a larger national distribution center. As the largest manufacturer of commercial cribs used in child care centers as well as hotels and motels, Foundations is projected to grow 30% in 2007 following 100% growth in 2006 over 2005. In addition, the new building has provided Foundations with more than just floor space. “The new facility has enabled us to re-engineer all operational processes. At the project's beginning, we engaged the firm of TransTech Consulting, Inc. of Columbus, Ohio, to analyze and upgrade our processes to make our operations more efficient. This led to a further investment of \$750,000 in addition to construction costs for new capital equipment and systems, making this a state-of-the-art distribution center. This distribution center has transformed our distribution function into a competitive advantage and provides a platform for aggressive growth in the future,” said Lawlor.

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The new Foundations building also houses the product development and quality assurance functions for the company. The beginning of operations at the new facility marks the end of phase one in a two-phase construction plan. Foundations has allocated real estate at the site to accommodate an additional 20,000 sq. ft. of office space to be built in Phase 2 within the next three years.

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Foundations[®], a division of Shamrock Industries, Inc., is the foremost supplier of cribs, crib bedding, strollers, high chairs, and rocking chairs to child care centers, hotels, and other facilities that accommodate children. **Foundations**[®] products are designed for safety, comfort, and convenience with the unique needs of child development as our first priority.



High Resolution Photo of the new **Foundations**[®] Children's Products facility in Medina, Ohio.