



A Pennsylvania Local Development District

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Hovis Auto Supply, Inc. Expands with Assistance from the Northwest Commission

Hovis Auto Supply, Inc. recently received a \$200,000 EDA/RLF loan from the Northwest Commission to purchase the former Born 2 Run sports complex in Springfield Township, Mercer County. The complex will be used as a wholesale/distribution center that will increase operational efficiency and allow for future expansion of the company. Hovis Auto plans to create 9 jobs within three years with this expansion.

The Northwest Commission in partnership with Penn-Northwest Development Corporation of Mercer County worked to secure the funding for the project through the Commission's Economic Development Administration's Revolving Loan Fund. Daryl Coyne, Manager of the Northwest Commission's Loan Program, said, "the Revolving Loan Fund program is a tool that we have to assist small companies with low interest financing to attain their expansion needs. The program has been beneficial in allowing businesses to grow while assisting the banks and other economic development entities with the total financing package. Having the lower-interest programs in the project spreads the risk and enables the company to afford their expansion while saving funds for their cash flow needs."

Hovis Auto and Truck Wrecking was started as a family business in 1952 by Cliff Hovis Sr. By 1969, with the inclusion of new parts sales, Hovis Auto and Truck Supply was formed. In the years that followed, Cliff Sr. was joined by his two sons, Cliff and Curtis, and with their help, Hovis Auto and Truck Supply grew to include eleven additional locations. This year, a new wholesale/distribution center was added, which will enable the company to store auto parts, truck parts, tools, auto body supplies, and equipment at one central location within the region. This will result in the quicker and more efficient distribution of products to all of the twelve Hovis locations.

At the check presentation the Northwest Commission's Executive Director, Denise McCloskey congratulated Hovis Auto Supply, Inc. on the expansion. Jill Newcomer, of Penn-Northwest Development Corporation was also on hand to express her congratulations to the company. Pennsylvania Senator Robert Robbins and State Representative Richard Stevenson spoke about the importance of government loan programs and how these programs assist regional businesses with growth and expansion to provide more jobs within the region. Mercer County Commissioner Ken Ammann spoke about the importance of small businesses to Mercer County and the northwest Pennsylvania region.

For more information on the Northwest Commission's loan program, and what services are available for businesses, please contact Daryl Coyne, Loan Manager, at darylc@nwcommission.org or by telephone at **814.677.4800 x112**. You can also visit the Northwest Commission website at www.nwcommission.org.

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Established in 1967, the Northwest Commission is a regional resource for business and economic development as well as community development and planning. The non-profit agency is composed of a team of skilled professionals dedicated to sustaining economic vitality and growth in the northwest Pennsylvania region by fostering local, state, and federal partnerships across public and private sector lines. The Northwest Commission provides programs such as business financing, government contracting, international marketing, grants, transportation, and technology assistance to eight counties in northwest Pennsylvania including: Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and Warren.

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