

# LOUISVILLE BUSINESS FIRST

## Conveyor manufacturer plans \$21M project that will create 300 jobs

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**LICHTEFELD INC awarded phase 2 Santa Rosa Systems**

Louisville-based Santa Rosa Systems LLC, a manufacturer of conveyor and automated sortation equipment, is planning a major expansion of its facility in Mount Washington.

The company plans to invest \$21 million to expand its facility to increase office and manufacturing space in order to meet demand from customers, according to documents filed with the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority. The expansion would create 300 jobs during the next 10 years, paying an average hourly wage of \$25, including benefits.

Santa Rosa Systems received preliminary approval for \$2.5 million in tax incentives through the Kentucky Business Investment program from the Kentucky Economic Development Authority board during a meeting in Frankfort. The company also was approved for \$150,000 in incentives through the Kentucky Enterprise Initiative Act. The incentives were based on the company's job creation and investment plans.



FILE PHOTO

Santa Rosa Systems LLC, a manufacturer of conveyor and automated sortation equipment, plans a major expansion of its facility in Mount Washington.

Santa Rosa Systems fabricates and assembles equipment that is installed by its sister company, Materials Handling Systems Inc. It sells products to Material Handling Systems and to end users, such as United Parcel Service Inc. and FedEx Corp.

I've reached out to the company for more information on this project but have not heard back yet. This story could be updated.

These other Louisville-area manufacturers received KEDFA approval for incentives during today's meeting.

- Nifco America Corp., which operates an injection-molding and assembly plant in Shelbyville, received preliminary approval for \$450,000 in incentives during today's meeting. According to its filing, the company plans to invest \$6.1 million to expand its facility and purchase additional equipment. Nifco supplies plastic fasteners for several industries worldwide, including automotive, electronics, telecommunications, home appliance, office equipment and fashion, according to its website. This project is expected to create 38 jobs during the next seven years, the filing indicates. Those jobs would have an average hourly wage of \$20, a figure that includes employee benefits.

- Plastic injection molder HB Moldings Inc. is considering an expansion of its operation in Jeffersontown. According to KEDFA documents, the company is considering building warehouse space near its property that will allow existing space to be used for more manufacturing. The project also would involve adding new equipment and renovating and expanding its offices. The project is valued at \$1.4 million and would create 20 jobs with an average hourly wage of \$26.50, including benefits, during the next four years, the filing indicates. The company received preliminary approval for \$225,000 in tax incentives based on those plans.

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