

# NEWS

RELEASE



NICHOLAS J. PIRRO  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

**DEPARTMENT**

Office of the County Executive

August 8, 2000

**RELEASE DATE**

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County Executive Nicholas J. Pirro has announced that beginning this fall the Syracuse China Company plans to invest more than \$7 million in new kiln technology and product handling equipment at the Court Street Road plant in the Town of Salina. The project will replace 60 year old technology and significantly improve yield, reduce waste and help control energy use. As a leading manufacturer of ceramic dinnerware, the project will result in production efficiencies that will keep the Company competitive in its market.

“Syracuse China takes the name of our community across the country” said Pirro, “and with 470 employees and a history in our community dating to 1871, it is a Company we want to support.” The Company has been working with the County Office of Economic Development and the Empire State Development Corporation to review the project and identify sources of support. The State has offered assistance and the company is applying to the County Industrial Development Agency for support. The Agency will begin consideration of the application at the August 9 meeting. In addition to tax management assistance, the Agency will consider being a sponsor of an application by the Company to the State’s Environmental Investment Program. This Program supports waste reduction by industry and the Syracuse China project will achieve significant waste reductions in unglazed product, clay and refractory materials.

The kiln project is the centerpiece of a plan of capital investment in the Syracuse facility to be undertaken over the next two years. While there may be some changes in employment due to the introduction of the new technology the Company expects to have 470 employees by the end of the third year following installation of the new kiln system.

Syracuse China occupies a 650,000 square foot manufacturing facility located on a 150 acre parcel of land. The Company is owned by Libbey Glass, Inc., through an acquisition completed in 1995. The proposed project has been reviewed and approved by the corporate parent.