



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

Michael F. Easley
Governor

Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: 1/24/2005

Contact: Vanessa Capobianco
Phone: (919) 733-5612

**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES \$23.5 MILLION INVESTMENT FOR PERSON
COUNTY**

***One N.C. Fund Grant Brings Spuntech Industries' First U.S. Manufacturing
Facility and 60 Jobs***

Raleigh - Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Spuntech Industries Inc., a manufacturer of non-woven fabric used in dry and wet wipes, will locate its first U.S. manufacturing facility in Roxboro, creating 60 jobs during the next three years and an investment of \$23.5 million to the area. This announcement is made possible in part by a \$250,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

"Spuntech's decision to locate their first U.S. manufacturing facility here in North Carolina is further proof that our investments in education, infrastructure and workforce development are paying off," said Easley. "These smart investments are ensuring that North Carolina remains highly competitive in the global economy."

Spuntech Industries, established in 1996, currently operates three production lines at two manufacturing sites in the Upper Galilee region of Israel and a U.S. sales office in Bloomfield, Conn., which will move to Roxboro.

The 60 new jobs will be administrative and manufacturing positions and will pay an average annual salary of \$37,440. The plant will be located in the former Wolverine Tube facility. Renovations to the facility are expected to be completed by the fall and hiring will start immediately.

"We are grateful for the warm welcome we received in Person County," said Gideon Krasny, CEO of Spuntech. "We did an intensive search throughout the Eastern United States and found that this area of North Carolina provides a great location to back growth in our U.S. operation. Our business requires a highly technical, skilled and motivated workforce, and we feel that Roxboro, Person County and its surrounding communities provide that. In addition, our industry is supported in North Carolina by N.C. State University and our trade association, INDA, which has its headquarters here."

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through use of this fund, more than 13,000 jobs and more than \$1.7 billion in investment have been created since 2001.