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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARGOTEC BREAKS GROUND ON EXPANSION TO DOUBLE SIZE OF ALIPHATIC FILM PLANT

GREENFIELD, Massachusetts — August 31, 2004 — Argotec, Inc., of Greenfield, Massachusetts, today broke ground on an 11,520 square foot plant expansion project that will double the size of its aliphatic film production facility. The company has two manufacturing operations in the Greenfield Industrial Park off of Route 2 and Adams Road. The contractor for the project is The O'Leary Company of Southamptton, Massachusetts. Participating in the groundbreaking were Richard Barnes and Steven Wolkenbreit, co-chairmen and company founders; Bruce Wilby, president and chief operating officer; and Randy Conklin of The O'Leary Company.

This will be the second plant expansion in as many years for the "best kept secret in the specialty films industry." The first was a 10,000 square foot addition to Argotec's 49 Greenfield Street facility that increased the size of that plant to 35,000 square feet. The O'Leary Company was the contractor for that project also. This new addition will increase the size of Argotec's 64 Adams Road facility to 21,500 square feet. Founded in 1988, Argotec is marking its 15th anniversary this year.

The Adams Road plant currently houses a state-of-the-art, hard-wall clean room containing flat-die extruders used to produce high-performance, aliphatic-grade, thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) film

and sheet. The clean-room manufacturing operation extrudes exceptionally clear, optical-grade aliphatic TPU film and sheet that is used as an optical interlayer to bond glass to polycarbonate/acrylic, glass to glass, or glass to other substrates. The result is a super-strong, ultra-clear glass composite used in a wide variety of commercial, governmental and residential glazing applications where extremely high strength and impact resistance is required. Typical applications include banks, armored vehicles, correctional facilities, commercial & military aircraft windows, and hurricane-resistant glazing.

The two Argotec plant expansions were driven by a steady increase in sales and demand for the company's core products. Company president Bruce Wilby stated that the company expects to hire additional employees to help meet this demand. Due to the competition for qualified individuals in the Greenfield area, Argotec has already initiated an aggressive radio and newspaper recruitment campaign to begin filling the anticipated new positions.

Argotec, Inc. is a global supplier of custom-engineered, high-performance, polyurethane film and sheet for a wide variety of critical applications using blown film, cast-on-carrier and flat-die extrusion technologies. In addition, the company offers precision film & sheet products made from other specialty thermoplastic elastomers.

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Photos:



Groundbreaking for the 11,520 square foot expansion of the Argotec, Inc.'s aliphatic polyurethane film production facility in Greenfield, Massachusetts, took place Tuesday afternoon, August 31, 2004. Participating in the ceremony (from left) were: Bruce Wilby, company president and chief operating officer; Richard Barnes, Argotec co-founder and co-chairmen; Bill Green, director of planning & community development for the City of Greenfield; Ann Hamilton, executive director, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce; Steven Wolkenbreit company co-founder and co-chairman.

Groundbreaking 0821.jpg



Groundbreaking for the expansion to Argotec, Inc.'s polyurethane film production facility in the Greenfield Industrial Park took place Tuesday, August 31, 2004. Sharing in the ceremony were (from left): Steven Wolkenbreit, Argotec co-founder and co-chairman; Bruce Wilby, company president and chief operating officer; Bryan Nicholas, director of sales & marketing for The O'Leary Company of Southampton, contractor for the project; and Richard Barnes, company co-founder and co-chairman.

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