



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Robert G. Ortt

## Finger Food Products Breaks Ground on New Facility, Expanding in Wheatfield

PAMM LENT (GOVERNOR'S OFFICE), LAURA MAGEE (ESD) May 3, 2016

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Empire State Development today announced that Finger Food Products, Inc., a veteran owned business, is embarking on a multi-million dollar relocation and expansion in Wheatfield. Finger Food Products makes Original Pizza Logs®, which have been a favorite game-day snack in Western New York for more than two decades, and are also served at sports stadiums nationwide. The project includes the construction of a new \$3.9 million state-of-the-art food grade facility in order to meet increased demand and expand into new

markets. The project, also involving the purchase of new machinery and equipment, will retain 16 full-time, permanent jobs and create 11 new jobs.

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky said, "Finger Food Products will soon be creating new jobs in Niagara County and though they started decades ago at a small store in Niagara Falls, they're now providing a favorite snack food to supermarkets and stadiums across the nation."

"Finger Food Products, Inc. is excited to be expanding into a new production facility, which will allow us to meet the increased demand for our Original Pizza Logs®," said Jason R. Cordova, Owner of Finger Food Products, Inc. "We thank Governor Cuomo for his support of this project, giving us the opportunity to supply our popular product to even more of the most premier sports venues in the United States."

The new production facility promotes smart growth by locating at the Vantage International Point industrial park, which has existing infrastructure. Finger Food will recruit employees from the inner cities of Niagara Falls and Buffalo, providing good entry level manufacturing positions which could prepare lower level skilled employees for advancement.

Finger Food Products has been serving the western New York area for more than 25 years. Founded in Niagara Falls, the family owned and operated business had a very humble beginning. The company started in a small facility behind a convenient store. The Original Pizza Logs were all meticulously hand rolled...one by one. It did not take long for the popularity of the snack to grow throughout the area. Soon, the demand for Original Pizza Logs spread throughout the region and across the Northeast.

New York State, through Empire State Development (ESD) and its Excelsior Job Program, is providing up to \$243,000 in performance-based tax credits over 10 years in return for Finger

Food Products proposed investment and job creation commitments.

“Original Pizza Logs are a staple for major sporting events both regionally and nationally, so we’re thrilled the manufacturing facility is expanding in Niagara County,” said Senator Rob Ortt. “The state-of-the-art facility will be alongside other well-known manufacturing companies at Vantage International Point industrial park, which will help it to succeed and thrive. More importantly, the move will retain full-time jobs and create new, entry-level jobs that will further grow and strengthen our local economy.”

"All of Niagara County should be proud of the success Finger Food Products is enjoying," said Assemblyman John Ceretto. "The new location will enable them to have more orders rolling in and more pizza logs rolling out. I look forward to seeing this veteran owned business continue to grow and provide jobs for people in the region."

"This completes site development at our industrial park. We are built out," said Niagara County Legislator Kathryn Lance, Economic Development Committee Chair. "We're grateful Empire State Development chose to join this venture and provide critical support for a locally grown company that has chosen to reinvest \$3.2 million in our local economy, and create needed local jobs."

### **About Finger Food Products, Inc.**

Finger Food Products, Inc. has been providing the food industry with Original Pizza Logs® for more than two decades. Original Pizza Logs® can be found at national and regional food service distributors, regional grocery supermarkets, and some of the largest pizzeria chains throughout Pittsburgh and the United States. Original Pizza Logs® can be found at professional baseball, football, and hockey venues as proud partners of the Pittsburgh Pirates, Buffalo Bills, and Buffalo Sabres.