New Flyer to Invest $20 Million in Research

Winnipeg, Manitoba

New Flyer Industries Limited (NFIL) recently announced a $20 million research and development program. New Flyer President Jan den Oud- sten said " NFIL in 1986 employed 175 Manitobans, today we employ over 600 and this year we will purchase over $40 million in products and services from Manitoba companies. Our successes in expanding markets and improving manufacturing efficiencies have been made possible by a $10 million loan guarantee from the province. Today, building on these successes, we are pleased to announce an investment of $20 million in research and development. This program of research will fuel our growth into the next century and will see the creation of up to 90 new jobs over the next three years. We are very grateful to Western Economic Diversification (WD) whose $5 million loan made a commitment of this magnitude possible for New Flyer."

At a recent news conference, Western Economic Diversification Minister, Lloyd Axworthy, announced that WD will provide a $5 million loan towards New Flyer's strategic product research program.

Mr. Axworthy said, "We are pleased to assist New Flyer to build on its reputation as an innovator and to put made-in-Manitoba technology front and centre on the world stage. Because the firm is working in cooperation with a B.C. and Alberta company to develop new alternate fuel models, this initiative also promises spin-off benefits across western Canada."

The Province of Manitoba, which is a longterm supporter of New Flyer Industries, having provided a $10 million loan guarantee to assist the corporation in expanding markets was represented by James Downey, Minister of Industry Trade and Tourism. Mr. Downey said,"New Flyer has had and will continue to have impressive success in the export market, thanks to new technology they are now employing. The government of Manitoba is pleased to have been able to help New Flyer maintain nearly 1,000 direct and indirect jobs while also creating new jobs as their success grew."

New Flyer President Jan den Oudsten said, "As the only North American bus manufacturer with an approved commercial low-floor unit, we intend to capture a significant portion of a growing market for more accessible public transportation. Our research into zero emission vehicles combined with our status as the only electric trolley bus manufacturer on the continent, will enable us to take advantage of the growing demand for urban transport that is convenient, affordable and environmentally responsible. Not only will success mean jobs at New Flyer, but our local suppliers will reap substantial benefits as well."

Among the projects will be research into expanded applications of the computer controlled, multiplex electrical systems developed by New Flyer Industries. This technology represents a major enhancement to urban transit buses and will significantly improve the marketability of NFIL's already successful, low floor transit buses. In addition, New Flyer Industries has begun work on high technology low emission and zero emission buses. The company will also implement a $300,000 ISO quality assurance program to establish itself as a leading edge competitor in the urban transit field.

New Flyer Industries Limited employs 623 staff at its Winnipeg plant. An additional 76 employees do final assembly at its facility in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Western Economic Diversification Canada has responsibility for federal economic activities in western Canada, particularly those aimed at small and medium-sized enterprises developing new products, new markets, new technology and import replacements. The Department also assists strategic pan-western initiatives and acts as an advocate for the West.

Funding for this project was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

For more information, contact:

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Please allow me to express some concerns about the "Water Arch" being considered for the Engineering Museum site.

What control would there be over the "landing point" of the stream? The fountains at City Hall, Memorial Park, and the Library all spray well beyond their catchment pools on windy days.

We must consider the effect on citizens using the river, or the opposite bank. Will they be sprayed with muddy polluted river water? Consider also the fine mist of "overshoot", which could carry for some distance downwind. Or, would you use pure chlorinated water piped in from Shoal Lake? Neither one of these options seems to me to be very Water Wise, nor Power Smart!

Responsible practice would note that the ability to do something does not automatically require it to be done. Instead, I'm left with an image of little boys competing to show off how far they can pee!

Yours truly,
D.K. Newey, P.Eng. (Ret.)

The Professional Engineers Wives Association

Program 1995

Tuesday, February 28,1995 - Chocolate Madness by Kathryn Howe at St. Albins Anglican Church, SW Rathgar & Osborne 7:30 p.m. Refreshments following

Tiiesday, March 28,1995 - Luncheon with Presentation by Massage Therapist from Moda Fini, Karen Angus, Niakway Country Club, 620 Niakwa Road

Tuesday, April 25,1995 - Annual Meeting and Luncheon, Winnipeg Winter Club, 200 River Ave., Bridge at 10:00 a.m. Speaker: Dr. Jasper McKee, Luncheon Reception 12:15 p.m. Lunch 1:00 p.m. Transportation available to all events - contact Hannya Klimenko 231-0554.

Hope to see you all!

The Executive of the Professional Engineers' Wives Association for 1994-95 is as follows:

President: .....Carol Klein
1st Vice President: .....Judy Beattie
2nd Vice President: .....Lynn Scott
Past President:.....Mary-Ann Dickson
Treasurer:.....Marusia Foster
Assistant Treasurer: .....Brenda Andrews
Secretary:.....Beverley Gulay
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Social Convenor: .....Erma Hotchkiss
Program Convenor: .....Hannya Klimenko
Telephone Convenor:.....LorraineMacLeod
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