Bellevue plant expanding; adding jobs

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Melissa Topey Newsroom

BELLEVUE — A Bellevue plant is expanding and bringing additional jobs to the community.

Amcor Rigid Plastics is planning a massive expansion of its Bellevue plant at an investment of \$45 million, as well as hiring several people. How many will be hired is not yet finalized.

Amcor employees about 150 people. "This positions us for future growth, additional jobs and a lasting legacy in Bellevue," said Jennifer Thompson, plant manager for Amcor.

Amcor is the leading supplier of rigid plastic packaging for some of the world's most popular brands.

"Amcor has been a very important company to Bellevue," said Bellevue Mayor Kevin Strecker.

Twice a year Amcor purchases the flags seen downtown twice a year, he said. "We appreciate everything they do for us."

Amcor is constructing a new 126,000 square foot production space and 60,000 square feet in warehousing space on its site on U.S. 20.

That still leaves them a lot of land for future growth.

"Amcor's expansion further demonstrates that Northwest Ohio is a great place for business and enhances our region's standing as a leader in the advanced manufacturing sector," said Dean Monske, president and CEO of the Regional Growth Partnership who helped bring the expansion to Bellevue.

"Along with JobsOhio, the RGP congratulates the city of Bellevue and commends Amcor for bringing new jobs and investment to the community."

Amcor opened in Bellevue 30 years ago.

It was built to serve the Heinz plant in Fremont, Thompson said but expanded to service many more clients with the latest technology in packaging over the years.

It is the Bellevue plant which Amcor uses as the testing grounds for the latest technology and innovations the packaging company manufactures. The company has found Bellevue an attractive place to do business because of the willingness of city officials to work with them and help get things done, Thompson said.

Amcor is anticipating construction on the new buildings should be completed in summer of 2017. They are planning to hire the additional employees next year.

Bellevue Economic Development Director Steve Fuhr said after the expansion Amcor will be the biggest building in the area. "It is going to be huge, as far as expansions go that is a big expansion," he said.

In fact, the city had to build a substation at the site to meet the additional needs the plant will have for electricity.

"This is good news for manufacturing in the community," he said.