

# IMC Helps Hermance Machine Secure State Funding to Expand, Supporting Nearly 60 Jobs

written by Lauri Moon | October 31, 2019

**Harrisburg, PA** - Today, Governor Tom Wolf announced Hermance Machine Company, a family-owned and operated manufacturer and distributor specializing in woodworking and wood product manufacturing equipment in Williamsport, Lycoming County, will expand, supporting the combined retention and creation of 57 full-time jobs in the area.

"I am pleased that Hermance Machine Company has decided to expand its operations in the city where it began," said Governor Wolf. "I look forward to the continued investments and opportunities that Hermance will bring to Lycoming County residents for years to come."

Hermance has outgrown its current space and is exploring several real estate options to accommodate the expansion. The company also plans to add two new product lines, increase showroom/demo space and inventory, and make improvements to its online storefront. The company has pledged to invest \$3.16 million into the project, and has committed to create at least 20 new, full-time jobs and retain 37 existing jobs over the next three years.

"This assistance, coordinated by the Governor's Action Team, will allow for continued growth and employment opportunities at Hermance Machine Company," said co-owner of Hermance Machine Company Claire Strouse. "Additionally, our local Innovative Manufacturers' Center personnel were instrumental in assisting us to prepare and qualify for this opportunity."

Hermance Machine Company received a funding proposal from the Department of Community and Economic Development for the project, which includes an \$80,000 Pennsylvania First Grant, \$40,000 in Job Creation Tax Credits to be distributed upon creation of new jobs, and a \$16,200 workforce development grant to help the

company train workers. The company was also encouraged to apply for a \$2,650,000 loan through the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA). The project was coordinated by the Governor's Action Team, an experienced group of economic development professionals who report directly to the governor and work with businesses that are considering locating or expanding in Pennsylvania.