

# CITY OF DANVILLE & PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY VIRGINIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DANVILLE/PITTSYLVANIA CO. REGION IS FIRST U.S. SITE FOR SWEDWOOD NORTH AMERICA

*October 12, 2006*

*~Region announces 740 new manufacturing jobs coming to Cane Creek Centre ~*

### **DANVILLE –**

The City of Danville and Pittsylvania County announced today that Swedwood North America, a furniture manufacturer and subsidiary of IKEA, plans to open its North American manufacturing operation in Cane Creek Centre. The company, which will produce furniture for IKEA home furnishing stores in North America, will create up to 740 new jobs over the next ten years. Swedwood plans to begin construction immediately, and production will begin in September of 2007. With the completion of Phase 1 of the Swedwood project, the region expects to employ at least 271 people at the company's facility. Initially, the size of the Swedwood facility will be 810,000 square feet, with plans to expand over time.

Swedwood International, headquartered in Ängelholm, Sweden and established in 1991, is a wholly owned subsidiary of The IKEA Group. Swedwood is an industrial group of more than 35 production units mainly in Eastern Europe, whose primary function is to manufacture and distribute furniture. Currently, Swedwood employs more than 13,000 employees globally.

Mr. Jerry L. Gwaltney, City Manager for the City of Danville expressed his excitement regarding the new Swedwood venture saying, "Swedwood North America will be an asset to the

City of Danville by providing hundreds of good jobs for the community and adding to the region's prosperity." "This also is an opportunity to showcase our workforce's talents and willingness to work. This world leader in furniture production has chosen to locate its first U.S. plant in a world-class community, making this announcement a true testament to the value of partnership, preparation and perseverance by Danville and Pittsylvania County."

"The announcement of such a large number of new jobs is wonderful news for the area," said M.K. "Kate" Berger, Pittsylvania County Board Chair. "While Pittsylvania County and the City of Danville will be the primary beneficiary of the company's investment, our entire region will benefit. Today's announcement would not have been possible without the partnership of Pittsylvania County and the City of Danville to create Cane Creek Centre."

This is the third project collaboration for the City of Danville and Pittsylvania County over the last 15 months. Out of the three projects, this is the second manufacturer to locate in the Cane Creek Centre - Yorktowne Cabinetry, Inc. was the first company to locate in the 900-acre industrial park, which is owned by both the City and the County. This regional partnership has announced 1400 jobs and \*\$31.30 million to date with the majority of announced jobs residing in the Cane Creek Centre. The Swedwood announcement is the largest announcement for Danville and Pittsylvania County.

CITY OF DANVILLE & PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY - REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS					
DATE	COMPANY	BUSINESS SECTOR		JOBS	INV (M)
Jun-05	EIT, Inc.	Manufacturer of electronics, circuit boards	New	120	\$12.30
Feb-05	Yorktowne Cabinetry, Inc.	Manufacturer of semi-custom cabinets	New	540	\$19.00
Oct-06	Swedwood	Manufacturer of furniture	New	740	NR
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>1,400</b>	<b>\$31.30</b>

\*\$31.30 million reflects total investments for EIT, Inc. and Yorktowne Cabinetry, Inc.

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