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Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno Highlights Accomplishments of Women-Owned Businesses

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Visits To Artech Information Systems And FLOMO/Nygala Highlight Strength Of Women-Owned Businesses

Trenton, NJ – In celebration of Women's History Month, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno today began a statewide tour of New Jersey's unique and diverse women-owned business enterprises with visits to Artech Information Systems, LLC in Cedar Knolls and FLOMO/Nygala Corporation in Teterboro. During her visit to FLOMO Nygala, the Lt. Governor also met with members of the Bergen County Chapter of the Women's President Organization (WPO).

"New Jersey's women-owned businesses employ some 258,000 workers and contribute significantly to our state's economy and quality of life," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "Through the success of businesses like Artech Information Systems and FLOMO/Nygala, we witness how hard work, dedication and commitment can produce exceptional results. Our Administration will continue to support the state's diverse business community by providing both support and resources needed to further allow these dynamic enterprises to flourish."

Established in 1992, Artech Information Systems LLC (Artech) is a minority and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE) committed to maximizing global workforce solutions on behalf of its clients. Artech's deep heritage, proven expertise and insightful market intelligence has secured long-term partnerships with Fortune 500 and government clients seeking world-class professional resources. The firm is the recipient of the 2009 National Minority Supplier Development Council Inc.'s (NMSDC) "National Supplier of the Year" award — the highest honor a minority supplier can receive.

Artech employs more than 5,500 industry professionals supported by over 21 national and global locations coast-to-coast across the U.S., India, and China. Artech's Fortune 500 and Global 500 clients leverage this expansive reach by engaging Artech as a preferred go-to supplier across multiple regions and countries in order to receive consistent deliverables, terms, rates and cost savings. The company's global headquarters is based in Cedar Knolls.

"We're thrilled Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno is visiting us," said Ranjini Poddar, president and co-founder of Artech. "This visit shows that the state recognizes the contribution made by women-owned businesses such as Artech to the growth of New Jersey's economy. Artech currently has over 250 employees in New Jersey, and every bit of support we get from the state helps us grow further and add more employees."

Originating in Taiwan as FLOMO Plastics Industrial Co. in 1971, FLOMO/Nygala has become a major national brand which is owned and operated by Nygala Corporation. The business develops, designs, manufactures, imports, and supplies retailers with a wide selection of everyday and seasonal products, quality gift bags, accessories, photo frames, ceramic gifts, plush items, bows, ribbons, school supplies and more.

FLOMO/Nygala supplies more than 10,000 of these unique items through its New York/New Jersey and Los Angeles area showrooms, with many of those items produced in one of seven companies owned factories. The company headquarters and East Coast distribution center are located in Teterboro.

Nygala Corporation is a proud member of - and certified by - the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, the Women Presidents' Organization and the New York/New Jersey Minority Purchasing Council.

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"This Administration has done so much to help small businesses in New Jersey and I admire their vision and dedication," said Wendy Shen, President and CEO of FLOMO/Nygala. "I appreciate Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno taking the time to get to know FLOMO® and her sincere interest to discuss ways in which she can help our woman-owned and minority-owned businesses grow in New Jersey. I'm so honored by her visit and I believe that our conversations will be noted."

There are currently more than 8.6 million women-owned businesses in the United States. As of 2013, the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area is home to approximately 663,200 women-owned firms – the largest in the nation. There are roughly 223,400 women-owned businesses in New Jersey, an increase of nearly 44 percent since 1997. The sales revenues of these businesses exceed \$43 million annually.

Businesses considering a move or in need of assistance are encouraged to call New Jersey's Business Action Center at (866) 534-7789 or visit the State's Business Portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.

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