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Acting Governor Guadagno Visits "NJ Tried And True" Business Charles E. Green & Son

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Sixth-Generation Manufacturer Continues Legacy of Innovation, Welcomes First Generation of Female Leadership

Trenton, NJ - Continuing her tour of New Jersey's unique family-owned and longstanding businesses, Acting Governor Kim Guadagno today visited the pioneering maker of wire brush ferrules, Charles E. Green & Son in Newark. This visit is the fifth stop in her "NJ Tried and True" business tour.

Established in 1871 by Charles Green, an innovator in metal working processes, the company created a more durable way to bind and secure paint brush bristles by replacing the old method of using twine with metal pieces, known as ferrules. In 1873, Green was issued a patent for his invention. Through the early 1900s, the company continued to innovate, receiving another patent for its developments and designing machinery that was used until 1990.

"Charles E. Green & Son has maintained its commitment to excellence within the manufacturing industry for more than 140 years," said Acting Governor Guadagno. "The company's enduring success - lasting through six generations - is a reminder of the extraordinary history and contributions of New Jersey's business community."

During World War II, the company slowed its ferrule production to make machine gun links for the war effort. In 1968, the company expanded to a 50,000-square-foot warehouse in Newark, which doubled in size ten years later as Charles E. Green & Son met the demands of the burgeoning do-it-yourself market and professional paint applicators.

Today, Charles E. Green & Son is led by fifth-generation family member John Vanderbilt Green, III. His daughters, Vice Presidents Rebecca Green Sullivan and Caitlin Green, represent the sixth generation and are the first generation of women to run the company.

"All family members work on the factory floor before coming into management. This is important to understanding all the ins and outs of our business," said Caitlin Green, Vice President of Charles E. Green & Son. "We've been able to combine the time-honored tradition of metal working with modern machine technology to manufacture what we believe to be the best quality paintbrush and paint roller components possible. We are extremely proud to be a longstanding member of New Jersey's business community and we are honored to host Acting Governor Guadagno."

The majority of the company's 45 employees are Newark residents. Charles E. Green & Son continues to grow and expand its product lines by manufacturing household products, general hardware and electronic parts. More information on the company can be found on its website at: <http://www.charlesegreen.com>.

Only 30% of family-owned businesses in America will be passing the reigns to the next generation, even though close to 70% would like to keep their business in the family. By the third generation, only 12% of family-owned businesses in the US are typically still viable. By the fourth generation and beyond, only 3% of family-owned businesses continue to exist. Charles E. Green & Son is an exceptional example of a multigenerational family-owned New Jersey business that has surpassed expectations and continues to diversify its product line.

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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