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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ekos Window + Wall to break ground in Valparaiso

Chicago-based manufacturer to bring 110 new jobs to Northwest Indiana

VALPARAISO, Ind.— Feb. 15, 2021 — Ekos Window + Wall announced Monday its plans to break ground April 6 on a new 120,000 square-foot factory located at 3800 Bowman Drive in Valparaiso. Ekos chose Valparaiso over several other locations in Indiana and Illinois to manufacture its cutting-edge, patent-pending glass curtain wall products, which will be used to clad high-profile buildings and skyscrapers around the world.

Phase I of the construction plan includes the buildout of the new Ekos facility that will house both manufacturing and office space; Phase II will seek further expansion and the return of jobs from overseas. The \$11 million factory will include a state-of-the-art office and showroom that will boast a carbon-neutral footprint and other benefits for the community.

“It was clear to us right away that Valparaiso and the state of Indiana have been working very hard for years to create the environment we witnessed, and that’s where manufacturers want to be,” said **Ekos Window + Wall executive Rodrigo d’Escoto**. “We think Indiana is going to be the factory floor of the U.S. The entire experience was world class, just like our products, and we’re thrilled that our next generation of technology will be made in Valparaiso. As a community, we feel that Valparaiso is the perfect fit for the future of Ekos Window + Wall.”

Ekos Window + Wall will be the latest manufacturer to call Valparaiso home when it opens its doors on the city’s southeast side.

“We’re happy to welcome Ekos Window + Wall to Valparaiso,” said **Valparaiso Mayor Matt Murphy**. “We’re so pleased to share Valparaiso’s strengths in workforce, services and quality of life, giving companies like Ekos and other former neighbors the confidence to choose our community. Ekos’ investment of nearly \$11 million in the new structure and inventory, plus the creation of more than 100 new Valparaiso jobs, is a tremendous endorsement of our community.”

The move was fueled by cooperation between the city and attorney Daniel Timm of Valparaiso-based law firm CCSK Law, who represents Ekos Window + Wall. Both attorney Timm and Brandon Dickinson, the city's Redevelopment Commission Director, worked with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) to make the project a reality. The IEDC has offered Ekos Window + Wall up to \$1.25 million in conditional tax credits and up to \$200,000 in training grants based on the company's job creation plans, among other conditional tax credits. The city offered favorable pricing on the land for development.

"We performed an exhaustive search across Illinois and Northwest Indiana to help Ekos Window + Wall executives find the ideal fit for their new facility," said **Timm**. "By the end of our search, we helped them to reach the conclusion that Valparaiso is exactly what they were looking for. This city embodies Ekos' family-friendly and hard-working values and priorities, and we are proud to welcome them home."

For questions or comments about the Ekos Window + Wall development, contact Joel Phelps at 708-990-3455.

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About Ekos Window + Wall, LLC

Ekos Window + Wall, LLC, is a building enclosure manufacturer headquartered in Chicago. Ekos specializes in the engineering, fabrication, assembly and glazing of architectural fenestrations. The patented systems Ekos manufactures are designed with the flexibility to satisfy the creative features of designers, developers and architects. The "Ekos® - system" of building façade solutions includes Window Wall, Curtain Wall, Captured Systems, railings, decorative metal and storefronts. For more information about Ekos Window + Wall, LLC, call Joel Phelps at 708-990-3455.

About the City of Valparaiso

Valparaiso, Indiana, is located in Indiana's northwest corner, near the south shore of Lake Michigan. With its proximity to major markets, a trained workforce, positive business climate, award-winning schools (including public, technical and university options) and exceptional quality of life, Valparaiso is a welcoming spot for business to land or expand. For more information about available properties and incentives, including state-wide initiatives, contact Valparaiso's Economic Development Director Brandon Dickinson.

About CCSK Law

CCSK Law provides practical, effective strategies that protect client profits and minimize risk, so they can stay focused on growing their business. CCSK Law offers step-by-step, customized plans for new businesses. For established businesses, CCSK Law can provide Outsourced In-House Counsel. CCSK Law's experience includes contracts, intellectual property, LLC formation, operating agreements, trademarks, copywriting, partnership agreements, employment issues including non-compete disclosures and the purchase or sale of businesses. For more, visit CCSKLaw.com.