

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
GEORGE E. PATAKI, GOVERNOR

Press Office 518-474-8418
<http://www.state.ny.us> <<http://www.state.ny.us>>

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE 9/20/2002

GOVERNOR: MORE THAN 400 NEW JOBS COMING TO SYRACUSE AREA

Three Companies in Onondaga County To Expand, Invest More Than \$5.5 Million Governor George E. Pataki today announced that the ICM Corporation, Rapid Response Monitoring Services and the Sutherland Group Ltd. will create more than 400 new jobs in the Syracuse area, including approximately 100 new manufacturing jobs, through new business investments of more than \$5.5 million.

"Today's announcement of 400 new jobs and a new private sector investment of more than \$5.5 million is tremendous news for the Syracuse region's economy," Governor Pataki said. "Attracted by an outstanding local workforce, the billions of dollars in tax cuts we've enacted and New York's business-friendly policies, more and more employers are making the smart decision to invest, expand and create new jobs right here in Upstate New York.

"From expanding and improving our Empire Zones, to cutting \$100 billion in taxes, to launching our new Empire Opportunity Fund, we're working hard every day to create new private sector jobs in communities throughout Upstate New York."

Representative James. T. Walsh said, "I applaud Governor Pataki's work to improve Upstate New York's job climate. Today's good news for Syracuse and Rochester is the result of the Governor's pro-growth, reduced-regulation business agenda in Albany."

Senator DeFrancisco said, "Once again, Governor Pataki has delivered more great news to Central New York. Creating more jobs for New Yorkers has been job number one for the Governor as well as for me and my Senate Majority colleagues. We are on the right track as we continue to make our State a better place for all New Yorkers."

Senator Nancy Lorraine Hoffmann said, "Governor Pataki demonstrates again that his policies have made Central New York a desirable place to grow businesses. The hundreds of jobs being announced today build on the thousands of jobs developed in recent years and we look forward to seeing many more such announcements in the future."

Charles A. Gargano, Chairman of Empire State Development, said, "Prior to Governor Pataki taking office, New York wasn't considered as a business-friendly State. Due to Governor Pataki's leadership, New York has made the fundamental changes in our business climate necessary to help communities and win new jobs and investment. Our innovative strategy of targeting industries with growth opportunities, is paying dividends across Upstate New York."

[ICM Corporation](#)

ICM Corporation will invest over \$3.5 million and create 100 new jobs in Central New York. The company will construct an additional 5,000 square feet in this project's first phase by years end and in its Phase 2, an additional 10,000 square feet, to be completed by June 2003, will be added to its current 35,000 square foot facility in Onondaga County. The company will also retain its entire workforce of 200 employees. In order to remain competitive in the growing market for digital thermostats, ICM is investing in mechanical and electrical (M&E) services and expanded operations.

In consideration of its commitment to the New York State economy, ICM Corporation is eligible to apply for a \$300,000 capital grant from Empire State Development.

Ron Kadah, President of ICM Corporation said, "I want to thank Governor Pataki, Empire State Development, Onondaga County's Don Western and the Town of Cicero for making this exciting project happen. I am proud to be able to keep these jobs and create new jobs for the community I grew up in."

[Rapid Response Monitoring Services, Inc.](#)

Rapid Response Monitoring Services, Inc. (RRMS), will invest \$1.1 million and create 125 new jobs in Central New York. The company will invest in new computer and phone systems, furniture and other office fixtures as part of an expansion on an approximate 40,000 square foot facility. Currently the company is leasing 15,000 square feet in Syracuse. RRMS is a call center-type operation that provides centralized monitoring services for alarm companies around the country, with its primary focus in the Northeast. Rapid Response has grown from its initial 12 dealers to over 400 current active dealers and continues to grow. Presently, RRMS is one of only 22 Central Stations approved to monitor fire alarms in New York City.

In consideration of its commitment to the New York State economy, Rapid Response Monitoring Services, Inc., is eligible to apply for a \$225,000 capital grant from Empire State Development for the acquisition of equipment.

David J. Pida, Vice President and CFO of Rapid Response said, "Within our industry there are unlimited opportunities, and a number of areas where we could establish the company. However, what we see today as we prepare to expand is what originally brought us to the Syracuse area: We are able to benefit from an excellent pool of skilled and educated workers thanks to our location near top universities, our employees are able to take advantage of excellent housing and healthcare available throughout the area, and there is a tremendous boom in technology development here. Overall, between the resources available and the competitive cost of living and doing business, we could not be better supported. Being able to offer employment opportunities to the community is giving back what Upstate New York has given us."

[Sutherland Group Ltd.](#)

Sutherland Group Ltd., will invest over \$1 million for a training and development project in Onondaga County and will add 200 new jobs across their three Syracuse facilities, while retaining all 1,795 full-time employees statewide. Sutherland's project will also include an additional 200 new jobs in Monroe County for a total investment of \$2.1 million in Upstate New York.

The Sutherland Group, Ltd. is an international professional services company specializing in the design, implementation and ongoing management of technology and operational resource solutions for Customer Relationship Management. Sutherland helps clients identify, acquire, reach, retain and care for their customers more effectively, enabling their clients to achieve extraordinary business results.

In consideration of its commitment to the New York State economy, Sutherland Group Ltd. is eligible to apply for a \$350,000 JOBS Now Training Grant from Empire State Development. In addition, the Monroe County and Onondaga County Workforce Investment Boards each contributed \$50,000 to the project for a total incentive value of \$450,000.

Dilip Vellodi, CEO and founder of the Sutherland Group said, "Sutherland's business of professional outsource services is a growth industry, but a highly competitive environment. We have always been committed to the training and development of our workforce. The support from Empire State Development and Monroe and Onondaga counties assists our development of that skilled workforce, enabling us to compete more effectively in the marketplace and add jobs in our Syracuse and Rochester operations now."

###