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**eGOURMET SOLUTIONS WILL BASE EAST COAST OPERATIONS IN
DUPLIN COUNTY**
Expansion by National Logistics Firm Will Create 40 Jobs

May 18, 2021 (Elizabethtown, N.C. and Kenansville, N.C). eGourmet Solutions, a national logistics company specializing in the fulfillment of temperature-sensitive products such as refrigerated and frozen foods, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, will invest more than \$767,000 in expanding its existing Duplin County location into an East Coast operations hub. It will create 40 jobs in Wallace over the coming four years.

“Nothing speaks more positively about Duplin County’s economic and workforce competitiveness than the prosperity and growth of companies that are already here,” said Dexter Edwards, chairman of the Duplin County Board of Commissioners. “We welcome this decision by eGourmet Solutions and congratulate them on the success that has led to this exciting expansion.”

Founded in 2007, eGourmet Solutions is now one of the nation’s leading refrigerated and perishable fulfillment enterprises. Leveraging scale, specialized experience and cutting-edge technology, the Kansas City, Kan.-based firm offers customers highly competitive pricing on shipping and fulfillment. It also supports entrepreneurial partners with a program called “Ready, Set, Launch,” which helps start-ups minimize

costs during their initial year of business in order to concentrate resources on marketing and sales.

“We are very excited to continue to grow our business in North Carolina and reinforce our partnership with the local community,” said Germain Montagner, President of eGourmet Solutions. “This expansion will allow us to significantly broaden our East Coast operations to meet the increasing demands of the market.”

eGourmet Solutions currently employs a six-person staff in Wallace, which the company established in 2015. It also maintains a facility in Sacramento, Cal. The company will upfit a 63,100-sq-ft. (5,862 sq-m) building in Wallace formerly occupied Nichols Food Storage. Positions at its facility will pay \$42,000 per year.

“Our county’s economy is built on singles and doubles, and this company is a perfect fit for us,” said Davis Brinson, Duplin County Manager. “eGourmet Solutions is a 21st century enterprise known for quality and innovation, and its decision to base its eastern US operations here is a vote of confidence in our infrastructure, business climate and workforce resources.”

eGourmet’s expansion is a result of collaboration among state, local and regional partners and allies that include Duplin County, the Town of Wallace, James Sprunt Community College, the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, the North Carolina Department of Commerce and North Carolina’s Southeast. “Leadership matters in any economic cycle, and it is what has always set NC’s Southeast apart,” said

Jeff Etheridge, chairman of NC's Southeast. "I commend all our partners for working hard, working smart and working together to support eGourmet Solutions' expansion."

The **Duplin County Economic Development Commission** recruits new businesses to Duplin County and supports the growth of existing companies to increase local job opportunities and grow the county's tax base. The organization creates a positive economic development environment by improving access to global technology, information resources and business markets that attract and retain quality investment for the benefit of Duplin County residents. For additional information, visit <https://www.duplinedc.com>

A public-private partnership headquartered in Elizabethtown, N.C., **NC's Southeast** links business leaders with county governments in seeking to "provide strong economic development leadership in southeastern North Carolina through innovative marketing and collaborative regional initiatives that will support the creation of new jobs, generate capital investment and secure new business locations." Member counties include Anson, Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Duplin, Hoke, Lenoir, Montgomery, New Hanover, Moore, Onslow, Pender, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland and Wayne. For additional information, visit www.ncse.org

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