



Evans Distribution Systems Continues Growth in Suffolk

Company pitches in with tornado relief effort

Evans Distribution Systems, a full-service third-party logistics provider of warehousing, transportation and value-added solutions, is continuing to expand clientele and grow its Suffolk location. At its 330 Moore Ave. facility for more than a year now, the company's business is expected to rise approximately 20 percent due to its newly awarded Foreign Trade Zone status.

Operating in a large, modern warehouse double the capacity of its previous Virginia location, Evans' space features rail capacity for 22 rail cars serviced by CSX and Norfolk Southern. The company moved to Moore Ave. last May when it acquired the third-party logistics portion of Commonwealth's business (which included Atlantic Packaging and Hampton Roads Logistics). The strategic move was made to boost its roster of international clients looking to move products more efficiently into and out of the United States.

With customers in the food, paper and consumer goods industries, the location provides East Coast advantages such as predictable deliveries, less congestion and closer proximity to growing markets. The FTZ status delivers even more benefits since imported goods are not taxed until they leave the zone, duty is never paid on re-exported goods and there's no time limit on how long items can be stored inside.

"Operating as a Foreign Trade Zone is a draw for our customers because it means a significant cost savings," said John A. Evans, president of Evans Distribution Systems. "Because we work in a global marketplace, companies are receiving components and packaging from outside the United States. Not having to wait for each item to go through customs and only taxing the finished, final product makes the supply chain more efficient."

The FTZ offers a variety of advantages to Evans' customers, including:

- Cash-flow savings by delaying payment of duties and excise taxes until goods leave the zone.

- Foreign and domestic goods can be intermingled.
- Goods can be released immediately, unlike bonded storage, which can require 48 hours.

Evans Distribution Systems also recently received its Alcoholic Beverage Control license from the Commonwealth of Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, allowing the company to store and export alcoholic beverages in and out of the Suffolk warehouse. Evans' customer roster includes many companies in the alcoholic beverage industry.

Evans' growth affords them the opportunity to step up when the community is in need, going above and beyond everyday business operations to help the community that's served them so well over the years. After the tornado struck in late April leaving a 25-mile path of destruction and damaging homes, stores and cars, power lines and trees, Evans' management donated labor to load and unload needed relief supplies at a building next door to their current warehouse. In conjunction with the United Way and the City of Suffolk, Evans' experienced team of logistics professionals is working to route bottled water, safety glasses, work shovels, hammers, etc. to be used by the victims of the Suffolk tornados and its clean-up volunteers.

"We are dedicated to the City of Suffolk," said Evans. "We've been growing here for more than four years, and the port authority and community have always been so helpful. We are more than happy to do what we can to give back."

Evans Distribution Systems is headquartered in Melvindale, Mich. The company was founded in 1929 as the Central Detroit Warehouse Company, and has evolved into a full-service warehousing, value-added packaging and transportation third-party logistics provider serving the automotive, manufacturing, food and beverage and chemical industries. Evans currently employs more than 310 associates and operates more than 1.8 million square feet of space in Michigan, Virginia and Massachusetts. www.evansdist.com.