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City Announces Ariake Expansion

Harrisonburg, VA – Mayor Ted Byrd announced today that the Ariake Group, one of the world’s largest providers of stocks, bouillons, and natural meat flavorings, will invest \$6.2 million to add a new production line to its Harrisonburg manufacturing facility. This expansion, which is anticipated to be in operation by January 2014, is expected to result in the creation of at least four new jobs. Ariake USA, Inc. currently has 75 employees in Harrisonburg.

“This expansion is the company’s third since it moved to Virginia in 1989,” said Harrisonburg Economic Development Director Brian Shull. “Ariake originally chose Harrisonburg for its close proximity to quality raw materials and the Port of Virginia, and we are pleased that decision continues to bring the company success. Ariake invested \$23.5 million and doubled the size of their facility as a part of their last expansion, which was announced in July 2007. We are excited about their continued investment in Harrisonburg.”

Ariake Japan Company Ltd. was established in Japan in 1966. Ariake USA was established in Torrance, California in 1985. The company is one of the largest producers of stocks and bases in the world, offering a diverse selection of meat, poultry, seafood, and vegetable products. The company operates plants in China, Japan, France, Belgium, Taiwan and the United States. Ariake USA, Inc. established its Harrisonburg facility in 1989.

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“The new line will double our extraction capacity for existing product lines,” said Ariake Vice President Jamie Eanes. “Ariake is dedicated to utilizing state-of-the-art technology and staying on the cutting edge of new product development. We look forward to our continued business development in the Shenandoah Valley and the state of Virginia.”

The City of Harrisonburg worked with Ariake to secure the project for Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley. Harrisonburg approved \$50,000 from the Economic Development Incentive Fund to assist Ariake USA with the project.

“Harrisonburg has been fortunate to have Ariake USA, Inc. as a strong corporate citizen and neighbor,” said Mayor Byrd. “We are glad this business leader continues to make tremendous investments in our community and are excited to see even more success for them.”

*For more information on **Economic Development** in Harrisonburg, visit www.HarrisonburgDevelopment.com and www.AriakeUSA.com for additional information about **Ariake USA**.*

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