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Adirondack Optics enters business park

CHESTERFIELD – “I’ve got a dream,” said Chesterfield Supervisor Gerry Morrow on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. But he wasn’t paraphrasing King’s famous speech.

Instead, he was referring to what Terry Gordon, Adirondack Optic’s CEO and inventor of the Smartscope, a high-tech riflescope that captures digital images, has said when he first came to Morrow seeking help in getting money to start a business in the Chesterfield area.

That dream is well on the way of coming true.

One Monday, Adirondack Optics announced that they have formed a joint venture with Meopta Prerov A.S., one of the largest optic companies in the world and that they were in the final phases of purchasing a 24,000-square-foot facility from the town of Chesterfield, which is located in an Empire Zone.

The joint venture, Meopta ADK USA, will produce the first 2,400 SmartScopes and aid Adirondack Optics in upgrading to being the most modern optics facility in the world according to Gordon



Chesterfield Town Supervisor Gerry Morrow, Adirondack Optics Chief Operating Officer Jim Armstrong, Adirondack Optics CEO Terry Gordon, Senator Betty Little and Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward were on hand Monday for the announcement of Adirondack Optic’s merger.

Photo by Whitney Jackson

Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward spoke on the benefits of the product. She said that it would be useful in hunting and in military applications and is especially important for national security. She said the merger would help get the SmartScope on the market more quickly, which was important.

Gordon said he company is preparing for two important trade shows to launch the Smartscope globally. The success story is the culmination of six years of hard work, which he said couldn’t have been done without government support.

“This proves that New York state is a good place to do business,” said Senator Betty Little. “We’re able to say we will have new jobs in Keeseville.

Morrow agreed, saying the company will create 100 jobs in his town. He said the business is a perfect match for the Adirondacks, since there will be little environment mental impact.

“We’re not being penalized anymore for living in the Adirondack Park,” said Morrow, who cited the problems for businesses to operate in the Adirondack Park. He said that with Empire Zone Benefits, Adirondack Optics would be able to be just as competitive.

The Smartscope will go into production in March, and begin shipping in April.