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Anthony-Thomas Candy Co. expanding west-side plant, adding dozens of jobs



Anthony-Thomas Candy Co. makes Buckeyes and other chocolates at its plant at 1777 Arlingate Lane. FILE PHOTO



By Zachary Jarrell – Data Reporter, Columbus Business First Mar 7, 2024



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One of Central Ohio's sweetest family-owned businesses is about to get larger.

Anthony-Thomas Candy Co. is in the midst of an expansion that will add 20,000 square feet of warehouse space and 60 full-time jobs to its headquarters at 1777 Arlingate Lane, said Nick Trifelos, the company's national sales manager.

It's the chocolate maker's first major expansion at the building in the nearly three decades it has been there, allowing Anthony-Thomas to increase its production by 35%.

"We're setting ourselves up for the next 20 years," Trifelos told *Columbus Business First*.

In its current setup, the company – which came in at No. 19 on this year's family-owned businesses list – is "bursting at the seams," Trifelos said.

The company has even started to use its first-floor production space as overflow storage. The expansion will allow it to open the space up, as well as add an 11th production line with room for another in the future.

Trifelos declined to reveal the company's investment in the project, but he called it a "large, multimillion-dollar" effort to meet increased demand.

Dublin Building Systems Inc. is heading the project, which is slated to be completed in the fall.



The 20,000-square-foot expansion is the company's first in nearly three decades.

ANTHONY-THOMAS CANDY CO.

The 60 additional full-time employees will bring the company's count to 240, according to *Business First* research. Anthony-Thomas reported it also employs roughly 20 part-timers.

As we reported in a 2013 profile, Anthony-Thomas traces its roots to 1907, when Anthony Zanetos emigrated from Greece and took a job as an apprentice candy maker in Columbus. He started Anthony's Confectionaries with his son, Tom, in 1945 and the two launched Anthony-Thomas Candy Co. in 1952.

Trifelos represents the company's fifth generation. It currently has three generations working in the business.

"There's a lot of growth in Columbus," Trifelos said. "We are very happy to be part of it."

