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**Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry &
Tourism, Eastern Mercer County Regional Development Corporation, and Team
Hardinger Announce Expansion**

The Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism, Eastern Mercer County Regional Development Corporation, and Team Hardinger announced Thursday that Team Hardinger has selected the Barkeyville Industrial Park for the expansion of their new 120,000 square foot logistics/distribution and manufacturing facility.

The original company, born in the late eighteen hundreds, was a one horse, one man local delivery service. In 1969 Samuel Varo and William Schaal purchased the one truck operation and began to expand the business.

Over the last decade, this expansion has grown dramatically with employment growing by over 700%, power units by nearly 500% and annual sales by over 400%. Today, Team Hardinger Transportation is located on more than 70 acres of land occupying more than 400,000 square feet of space, centrally located in Erie, Pennsylvania. Team Hardinger offers easy access to the local interstate highway system, rail and air service and port access shipping facilities, with direct service to all these destinations throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Through the extensive marketing by the Alliance of shovel ready sites, Foreign Trade Zone Status, interstate access and a strong workforce Team Hardinger was drawn to the Barkeyville Industrial Park with the help of a major supplier in Grove City and the Eastern Mercer County Regional Development Corporation.

Earlier this month the ORA sealed the deal with Team Hardinger to build their new 120,000 square foot facility on 40 acres land. Team Hardinger will use this facility for logistics/distribution, sub-assembly work and crate manufacturing. The company will initially employ up 26 new employees with much potential for growth.

If interested in the Oil Region or to contact the Oil Region Alliance, call 1-800-483-6264, or visit www.oilregion.org.