

NEWS

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CUSTOM FURNITURE/MILLWORK-MAKER VCA, INC. CUTS RIBBON ON 20,000-SF FACILITY IN NORTHAMPTON

Northampton Mayor Mary Clare Higgins and MassDevelopment President/CEO Robert L. Culver joined VCA, Inc. principals Bruce Volz and Tony Clarke to celebrate the grand opening of VCA's new 20,000-square-foot furniture manufacturing facility in the Village Hill neighborhood of Northampton. State and local officials, business owners, and residents also attended the ribbon-cutting event.

"On behalf of MassDevelopment, it's a pleasure to welcome Volz Clarke – our first resident business – to Village Hill Northampton," said Robert L. Culver, MassDevelopment president/CEO. "Many heartfelt thanks to Bruce and Tony for their pioneering spirit and commitment to manufacturing in Western Massachusetts. Congratulations on the completion of your expansion. We hope VCA will flourish in Northampton for many years to come."

"Today we witness an important milestone for the Village Hill Northampton redevelopment," said Northampton Mayor Mary Clare Higgins. "It is all the more satisfying that VCA is the first commercial tenant since they were one of the initial businesses to express interest in the property. The City welcomes VCA to Village Hill and to the Northampton business community."

The producers of custom, high-end furniture and architectural millwork join the growing community at Village Hill Northampton, a 126-acre mixed-use redevelopment project. VCA occupies a three-acre site at 209 Earle Street.

"Tony and I first looked at this site more than ten years ago," said Bruce Volz, VCA, Inc. co-founder. "As we watched Village Hill take shape, we became convinced it is the right place for us to grow our business."

Founded in 1992 by Bruce Volz and Tony Clarke, VCA specializes in the development and construction of fine, hand-crafted furnishings. From humidors and night-stands to bookcases and dining tables, VCA, Inc. products are known for quality fabrication and

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design. VCA technicians collaborate with skilled designers and architects like Marc Newson, Thomas Pheasant, Robert A.M. Stern and Thierry Despont, to produce quality commissioned pieces. For more information about VCA visit www.vca-inc.com.

Village Hill Northampton is a master-planned community based on New Urbanist principles. It combines commercial, R&D/light industrial and residential uses with open space to support regional job creation, business development and recreational opportunities. MassDevelopment is the project's managing partner. For more information please visit villagehillnorthampton.com.

MassDevelopment, the state's finance and development authority, works with businesses, nonprofit organizations, financial institutions and local officials to stimulate economic growth across the Commonwealth. Between FY2004 and FY2006, MassDevelopment financed or managed 589 projects statewide representing an investment of more than \$4 billion in the Massachusetts economy.