

## **\*\*In Celebration of International Women's Day \***

### **Shield Manufacturing LLC Acquires EBW Cares Distributors Inc. in a Deal to Revolutionize Healthcare Product Innovation & Manufacturing Led by Women in America**

Alpharetta GA, March 7, 2023- In celebration of International Women's Day and in a move set to transform the healthcare and PPE product industry, Shield Manufacturing LLC, led by some of the world's leading experts in PPE design, development, and manufacturing, announces it has acquired EBW Cares Distributors Inc., one of the fastest-growing companies in America. Both companies are owned and operated by women. While the deal remains private, it is estimated to be valued at over \$100 million.

The acquisition comes in the wake of the collapse of the global healthcare supply chain and the rise of new companies in the PPE space. Shield Manufacturing and EBW Cares Distributors bring together their expertise in technology, sales, marketing, engineering, financing, operational management, quality control, and product development to drive innovation and create high-quality healthcare products in America.

The companies' first focus will be the build of their cleanroom glove facility in Sandersville, Georgia, which is expected to produce over 2.2 billion gloves annually in its Phase I. Shield cleanroom gloves will serve pharmaceutical, medical device, biotech, chip manufacturing, and other controlled professional lab environments. With its own high-speed glove lines creating the feedstock for the clean room, Shield offers both "American Made" and "Berry Compliant" cleanroom gloves.

Alison Bagwell, CEO of Shield Manufacturing, said, "We are excited to have acquired EBW Cares Distributors and to work together to transform healthcare and other PPE products here in America and beyond. Our combined teams bring the expertise, leadership, innovation, customer service and more."

Ingrid Vanderveldt, CEO of EBW Cares Distributors, added, "It is our honor to be part of the one company and one team here in America that hands-down are the world's experts in PPE, glove, and cleanroom manufacturing. With Shield, they bring the proprietary expertise, relationships, and know-how that is already sought out by the top healthcare companies and will help us in achieving the goal of becoming America's leaders in PPE manufacturing."

With over 50 patents, 75% of which are actively being used today driving over \$500 million in combined sales over the past 10 years, Bagwell is an engineer formerly with Kimberly Clark. Vanderveldt, a technologist and financier developing systems that use data and AI to help optimize supply/ demand now in the healthcare space, was the former Entrepreneur in Residence of Dell and has led ventures and initiatives that combined have driven over \$1 billion in impact reaching over 700 million people worldwide.

The company is already preselling its cleanroom gloves, and for more information, interested parties can email Todd Wright [twright@shieldtecinc.com](mailto:twright@shieldtecinc.com). Shield Manufacturing and EBW Cares Distributors' partnership marks a significant step forward for women-led companies in America, poised to dominate the PPE and healthcare industry. You can find Bagwell and Vanderveldt onsite at this week at SXSW March 10-13, 2023.