



# Press Release



wichitafallstx.gov

For Immediate Release

May 23, 2024

## Westlake Pipe and Fittings Chooses Wichita Falls for Major Expansion

Wichita Falls, Texas- The City of Wichita Falls is honored with this announcement of a major expansion of Westlake Pipe & Fittings:

**Westlake Pipe & Fittings**, a division of Westlake Corporation (NYSE: WLK), plans to build a new molecular-oriented polyvinyl chloride (PVCO) pipe plant to expand its footprint at the existing manufacturing sites in Wichita Falls, Texas. The company and its representatives worked closely with the Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce on this project. This collaboration led to assistance and support from the City of Wichita Falls and Wichita County, which moved Wichita Falls Texas to the top contender for this corporate investment.

This is a significant milestone in Westlake's commitment to growth, innovation, and job creation in the region. Westlake cites the region's strategic location in the heart of the United States, and its current workforce among the top reasons for this new investment. The expansion includes the addition of a 190,000-square-foot facility at 3348 Industrial Drive and a significant investment in new machinery and equipment. Westlake currently has 64 full-time employees in Wichita Falls and this expansion will add at least 38 new full-time positions to their existing headcount. Construction is expected to begin by the end of 2024.

This investment enhances Westlake's product portfolio with the expansion of PVCO pipe manufacturing; an advanced molecular-oriented PVC pipe the company introduced in Canada in 2021. Using innovative technology, Westlake is setting the standard in the industry. This innovative material streamlines the assembly process, delivers exceptional performance and reduces the environmental footprint.

Mayor Tim Short is "pleased to see such a significant investment in new innovation in Wichita Falls" and expressed that City Council is "happy to work with existing businesses to help them grow and innovate in our city." Judge Jim Johnson cited the work of Chamber of Commerce in bringing this project forward as "game changing for our community" and added that "Wichita County is open to helping existing and new businesses grow here." He thanked the County Commissioners for their support in bringing this expansion to our community.

Ron Kitchens the President of the Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce shared, "We are grateful that the Board of Directors and Leadership of Westlake Pipe & Fittings has selected Wichita Falls for this investment which represents the largest single investment in manufacturing in community history." "Successful economic development requires a team, and this project shows what collaboration, commitment, and a servant leadership heart can create. Thirty-eight families will now have a better future because of these community leaders. Thank you, City of Wichita Falls, Wichita County, and the Wichita Falls Economic Development Corporation for your Leadership."

###