



For Immediate Release November 26, 2024 One Columbus Media Contact Jon Keeling 614-657-5917 jk@columbuspartnership.com

CÉRÉLIA EXPANDS PRODUCTION IN THE COLUMBUS REGION WITH MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT

New Production Lines in Whitehall Facility to Create 50 Jobs and Boost Capacity

Columbus, Ohio – Cérélia, a global leader in ready-made doughs and bakery products, has announced a \$12 million expansion of its production facility in Whitehall. This project includes the addition of two new production lines, allowing Cérélia to enhance its manufacturing capabilities and serve growing national contracts. The expansion will create 50 new jobs while retaining 120 existing positions, further strengthening the company's commitment to the Columbus Region.

"This investment represents an exciting new phase for Cérélia as we grow our operations in Whitehall to meet rising customer demand," said Réal Bernier, General Manager SCO "The Columbus Region has proven to be an ideal location for our production facilities, offering access to a skilled workforce and a supportive business environment. We're thrilled to continue investing in the community and expanding our footprint here."

Cérélia's expanded facility will operate on a three-shift schedule, maximizing production efficiency and increasing capacity to support major national contracts. Building off its investment in 2020, this project serves as a part of Cérélia's strategic growth plan to build upon its success in the North American market.

"Cérélia's expansion in Whitehall is a testament to the strength and resilience of Ohio's food production industry," said JobsOhio President and CEO J.P. Nauseef. "This investment brings quality jobs to our workforce and underscores the Columbus Region's role as a thriving center for global food innovation as Cérélia brings new products to market from Ohio."

Cérélia's expansion highlights the Columbus Region's ongoing growth as a hub for food sciences and agriculture, supporting more than 200 food and beverage operations that generate significant economic impact. As part of this project, Cérélia is set to boost production capacity and support the latest advancements in food manufacturing technology, reinforcing the region's reputation for innovation and excellence in the food and beverage industry.

"We are excited to see Cérélia deepen its commitment to Whitehall with this expansion," said Whitehall Mayor Michael Bivens. "Their continued investment speaks to the strong environment we're building for businesses to grow and thrive. This project will bring valuable job opportunities to our community and further Whitehall's standing as a significant player in the food production industry in the Columbus Region."

About Cérélia

Founded in France in 2012, Cérélia is an expert in ready-to-cook dough: refrigerated doughs (for pie, pizza and pastries), crepes, waffles and pancakes and cookies. Thanks to sustained organic growth and an ambitious acquisition strategy, Cérélia has become the leader on the European market in 10 years. Cérélia's products are distributed in over 50 countries.

With 12 production facilities in Europe and North America, Cérélia is committed to continuous innovation to meet consumer needs with its own brands as well as those of the world's leading retail and foodservice companies. The company focuses on sustainable and responsible practices in its manufacturing operations. Cérélia's mission, "Reducing the impact of consumption on the environment " expresses the daily commitment of the group's 2,000 employees: "We are Cérélia and we care ". Learn more on <u>Cérélia.com</u>

About Whitehall

The City of Whitehall, Ohio, is a dynamic and diverse community dedicated to progress and inclusivity. With a continually evolving socioeconomic and racial demographic base, the City prioritizes initiatives that serve all residents equitably. Efforts include fostering inclusive housing developments, launching impactful grant programs, expanding recreational opportunities, modernizing infrastructure, and attracting quality employers. These forward-thinking strategies have garnered strong community support, as reflected in the 2022 Community Attitudes Survey, where 77% of residents acknowledged the City's efforts to improve Whitehall as a great place to live, and 80% of those with an opinion agreed that Whitehall is moving in the right direction.

About JobsOhio

JobsOhio is a private nonprofit economic development corporation designed to drive job creation and new capital investment in Ohio through business attraction, retention and expansion. The organization also works to seed talent production in its targeted industries and to attract talent to Ohio through <u>Find Your Ohio</u>. JobsOhio works with seven regional partners across Ohio: <u>Dayton Development Coalition</u>, <u>Lake to River</u>, <u>Ohio</u> <u>Southeast</u>, <u>One Columbus</u>, <u>REDI Cincinnati</u>, <u>Regional Growth Partnership</u> and Team NEO. Learn more at <u>www.jobsohio.com</u>. Follow the company on <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

About One Columbus

As the economic development organization for the 11-county Columbus Region, One Columbus' mission is to lead a comprehensive regional growth strategy that develops and attracts the world's most competitive companies, grows a highly adaptive workforce, prepares our communities for the future and inspires corporate, academic and public innovation throughout the Columbus Region. One Columbus expertly guides companies through the location decision process. Through strategic business outreach and customized research, the One Columbus team leverages public, private and institutional partnerships to grow the Columbus Region's economy and strengthen its national and international competitiveness. Funding is received from more than 300 private organizations, local governments, academic institutions and JobsOhio. Learn more at <u>ColumbusRegion.com</u>.

###