

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. CP12-0XXX **SECOND DRAFT**

**Honoring the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Denver's Hercules Industries and its historic facilities.**

**WHEREAS**, Hercules Industries, founded in Denver by William Newland in 1962 and still family-owned and operated, manufactures energy-efficient heating, cooling and ventilation components, has been contributing to Denver's industrial base for 50 years, and currently operates two Denver locations, corporate headquarters at 1310 W. Evans, with **over** 135 employees, and 5050 Florence, with 55 employees, 12 other locations throughout Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah and Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, the W. Evans manufacturing operation is housed in the historic 1890 Overland Cotton Mill, the only successful Colorado cotton mill, and the original manufacturing operation was laid out exactly as the building is used by Hercules today, a testament to the efficiency of the original design, the facility was listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior on April 3, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Overland Cotton Mill is important in Denver's labor history, particularly in child labor and the court case that set the stage for Colorado's Child Labor Act of 1903, the state's first such law; and

**WHEREAS**, after the mill shut down in 1903, the building had a series of owners and occupants, including the Pittsburgh Radium Company, the local Klu Klux Klan, the WWII Mariposa munitions factory, and Colorado Builders Supply Company, and the buildings were severely damaged in the 1965 historic flood; and

**WHEREAS**, Hercules Industries purchased the site in 1995, and as it operates its manufacturing, it respects the historic nature of its buildings, undertaking restoration projects to preserve the buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, Hercules Industries is a responsible and respectful employer of a diverse workforce largely represented by Sheet Metal Workers Local Number 9, and the company's care of its employees is evidenced by its generous employee health care coverage and apprenticeship program; and

**WHEREAS**, Hercules Industries was a recipient of the 2012 MLK Business Social Responsibility Award in recognition of its employee-driven Metal of Honor Fund for assisting a variety of worthy causes, currently raising donations for the victims and fighters of the recent wildfires;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Council hereby recognizes the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hercules Industries and thanks the Newland family for its commitment to preserving its historic buildings, to its employees, and to Denver's manufacturing community.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Bill Newland of Hercules Industries.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL August 13, 2012

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PRESIDENT