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PRESS RELEASE

INNOTEX OPENS A PLANT IN MONTREAL TO MANUFACTURE PROTECTIVE CLOTHING FOR FIREFIGHTERS

## Company Invests over \$3 Million to Pursue Its Growth in the North American Market

**Montreal (Quebec), December 7, 2021 –** <u>INNOTEX</u>, the leader in developing and manufacturing personal protective equipment for firefighters and first responders, has opened a new plant in Montreal, bringing its number of manufacturing sites to four in Quebec and five in North America. The company's new facilities, located at 433 Chabanel Street, which required a major investment of \$3 million, will enable INNOTEX to meet the growing demand in North America for its high-quality products.

"Demand for our fire-resistant clothing has increased significantly and continues to rise. Our sales are growing by 15% each year. The new plant will provide us with the additional capacity needed to meet the needs of our clients and maintain our forward momentum," stated **Claude Barbeau, General Manager of INNOTEX**.INNOTEX plans to focus production of its line of firefighter turnout gear, ENERGY™, at its Montreal facilities.

A team is already at work following a customized training program, supported by experienced personnel from the INNOTEX plant in Richmond. The company, which expects to reach full capacity in 2023, is currently running a proactive recruitment campaign with the aim of filling 125 positions for Industrial sewing machine operators, support technicians and managers.

"The nature of our business favours stable employment. Technical clothing is in constant demand, enabling us to offer competitive salaries. What's more, we've taken particular care when setting up our new plant to create a rewarding, comfortable work environment. It's vital that we offer our employees an environment that promotes their personal development and well-being," explained **Mr. Barbeau**.

## Two New Plants in 2021

The inauguration of the Montreal plant follows the acquisition of Technofil, a manufacturer established in Laurierville, Quebec, in May this year.

INNOTEX now has 280 employees across its five plants—four in Quebec (Richmond, Warwick, Laurierville and Montreal) and one in Alabama, in the United States. Since 2018, INNOTEX has invested over \$2 million in the modernization of its facilities and equipment along with its R&D activities, with the aim of offering its customers the ultimate in performance and innovation.

## About INNOTEX

A leader in the development, manufacturing and distribution of fire-retardant personal protective equipment, INNOTEX is recognized as a trusted partner by thousands of firefighters and first responders.

With 100 years of experience in the technical clothing field, INNOTEX puts innovation at the core of its activities to serve its customers worldwide. The company has three manufacturing plants, including an R&D centre, in Richmond, Warwick and Laurierville, Canada and a manufacturing facility in Ohatchee, Alabama, in the United States.

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