Modula, an Italian manufacturer of automated picking and storage solutions for factories and warehouses, recently established its North American headquarters by opening a new factory in Lewiston. The company held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday at the facility, which covers more than 102,000 square feet of production and engineering space and houses 50 people, according to the company. Modula said it expects the facility to provide better lead time for customers throughout the U.S. and Canada. It invested $6 million in new equipment at the Lewiston facility.

Modula belongs to System Group, one of the largest Italian industrial conglomerates. The group founded the System Logistics and Modula divisions in 1987. The company said its revenue increased by 93% over the last two years, from €26.66 million to €51.52 million, which is about $57.5 million.

U.S. Sen. Angus King, who attended the ribbon-cutting, said in a statement that Modula recognized a talented workforce and the potential to succeed in Lewiston. “I continue to believe that our manufacturing sector’s best days are ahead, and Modula is an excellent example of that and of how we can continue to strengthen an industry that helped build this nation’s middle class,” King said.

The company employees about 250 people in two plants, one in Italy and the plant in Lewiston. There are also 13 Modula branch offices in Europe, the Americas, Asia and Africa.