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Henny Penny to supply 'low-oil' fryers to McDonald's

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Henny Penny Corp. is going to supply McDonald's Corp. with its next-generation, low-oil volume fryers.

The Eaton-based company partnered with the fast-food giant about two years ago in an effort to develop a fryer that would reduce total oil consumption, which can be the largest operating expense for some restaurants.

Jason Moles, field marketing manager for Henny Penny, did not disclose the dollar value of the partnership, but said it will bring the company significant growth.

"We're looking, potentially, at 30,000 McDonald's locations worldwide, with a couple fryers per store," Moles said.

Henny Penny will be one of two companies providing these low-oil fryers to McDonald's (NYSE: MCD) franchisees.

Moles said Henny Penny has already sold a couple hundred of the electric versions of the low-oil volume fryers, and will begin selling the gas versions in 2009.

Henny Penny President Rob Connelly said in June that the company was looking to add another 25 employees to deal with the additional work associated with McDonald's.

Henny Penny makes a number of different commercial products such as fryers, rotisseries and ovens for fast food chains and grocery stores such as **KFC Corp.** and **The Kroger Co.** (NYSE: KR). The company has about 600 employees worldwide including 500 in Preble County