FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OCTOBER 2, 1989

CONTACT: SARA BELDEN (202) 224-6521

GREAT BEND FIRM RECEIVES AID WITH \$800,000 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT; 525 JOBS SECURE

Washington, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) announced today that Fuller Industries, Inc., Great Bend, will receive assistance thanks to a federal grant from the Economic Development Administration, a division of the Department of Commerce.

Great Plains Development Inc., Dodge City, will receive the \$800,000 grant to assist Fuller Industries, Great Bend, with operating capital. The economic development organization will lend the money to Fuller Industries. As it is paid back over six years, the revolving loan will then be available to other businesses in the area seeking economic assistance.

"This grant will assist Fuller Industries right when the company is getting on its feet. I'm glad that we are continuing to funnel money to rural areas where some of the businesses need a helping hand. Kansas must continue to seek ways to maintain its economic base," said Dole.

In June, 1989, Fuller Industries, Inc. purchased Fuller Brush Manufacturing, Inc. operation in Great Bend. The company currently employs approximately 525 people.

The state of Kansas had earlier awarded Barton County a \$300,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to be loaned to Fuller Industries to purchase equipment and operating capital.