



INDUSTRY LEADER

JANUARY 2019

Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association



MTIDA and TVA Host Annual Christmas Celebration

MTIDA and TVA Economic Development hosted their Annual Christmas Celebration on December 6th at the 51 North Taproom, in North Nashville. Approximately 130 community, State, TVA representatives, and electric distributors attended.

Stonepeak Ceramics to Expand Crossville Plant

CROSSVILLE (September) Stonepeak Ceramics, Inc. officials announced that the company will expand and open a new production line at its Crossville facility. The total investment of \$70 million will increase the factory's capacity by 20 percent. Once complete, Stonepeak Ceramics will be the first tile manufacturer to produce large size porcelain panels in the United States.

Equipped with the newest technological features, the line produces tiles ranging from 6 mm to 2 cm in thickness. It is the only production line in the world capable of producing porcelain tiles starting from the large size of 120" x 60" to the smaller size of 12" x 12". With this expansion, the porcelain tile manufacturer will add approximately 160 full-time jobs at its Crossville facility over the next five years.

Stonepeak is a domestic porcelain tile manufacturer serving locations across the United States. Stonepeak Ceramics, a subsidiary of the Italian holding group

Iris Ceramica, is one of the leading porcelain tile manufacturers in the U.S.

Stonepeak plans on further expanding its current operations in Crossville to keep up with growing demand. The company plans on adding a new product line that will account for one new kiln.

Source: TN ECD





Corsair Distillery Expanding, Creating 52 Jobs

NASHVILLE (September) Corsair Distillery officials announced the company will expand its operations in Davidson County. The distillery will create 52 new jobs and invest \$11.1 million in Nashville.

Corsair Distillery was founded in Bowling Green, KY, by two Nashville natives in 2008 with only 2,400-square-feet. In 2010, Corsair moved most of the company and operations to Nashville where it became the city's first craft distillery. The company currently has two locations in Nashville and one in Kentucky. The company's second Nashville location opened in 2016, which currently houses the company's headquarters.

With this expansion, Corsair will build a 117,000-square-foot production facility in The Nations neighborhood in Nashville to expand capability for production and warehousing of whiskey.

Source: TN ECD

North American Bakery to Create 90 Jobs



LEBANON (October) Weston Foods officials announced the company will expand its Maplehurst Bakeries, LLC operations in Wilson County. The bakery company will create 90 new jobs and invest \$53 million in Lebanon.

Weston Foods, Maplehurst Bakeries' parent company, is a leader in the North American baking industry, producing breads, rolls, donuts, cakes, pies, bagels, tortillas, cookies, crackers and more. Employing 6,000 employees who operate nearly 50 bakeries across the U.S. and Canada.

Weston Foods products are sold in North American retailers, supermarkets chains and foodservice outlets. The company is also a supplier of ice cream cones and sandwich wafers to the dairy industry and a supplier of Girl Scout cookies in the United States. The company's Wilson County operation makes donuts.

With this expansion, Weston Foods plans on adding two new production lines to its current facility in Lebanon.

Source: TN ECD



Craig Manufacturing to Establish First U.S. Operations in Lawrence County

LAWRENCEBURG (October) John and Ben Craig, assisted by Ben's children – Anna and Nathan (the fifth generation Craig to be in the family business), proudly broke ground on a new U.S. headquarters and manufacturing facility in Lawrenceburg.

The facility is a 60,000-square-foot spec building in Team Lawrence Commerce Park-West, a Select Tennessee Certified Site, and includes 20 acres. This location will include 7,500-square-foot of office space as well as parts warehousing, installation bays, and ample manufacturing space. Craig expects this facility to open by late Spring of 2019 and is projecting to employ 80+ team members over the next 5 years as Craig ramps up production for the U.S. market in Tennessee.

"It was very important to have Anna and Nathan here at today's event because we are committed to building our business in the United States and in Lawrence County specifically. Someday we hope Anna and Nathan will return to work in this facility" said Ben Craig.

Since 1946, Craig Manufacturing has produced steel attachments for heavy construction, forestry, mining, energy and utility equipment. Headquartered in New Brunswick, Canada, Craig Manufacturing also has operations in Alberta and Ontario. The company supplies directly to original equipment manufacturers and their regional dealer networks.

Source: www.craigattachments.com

KeepTruckin Expands Nashville Operations

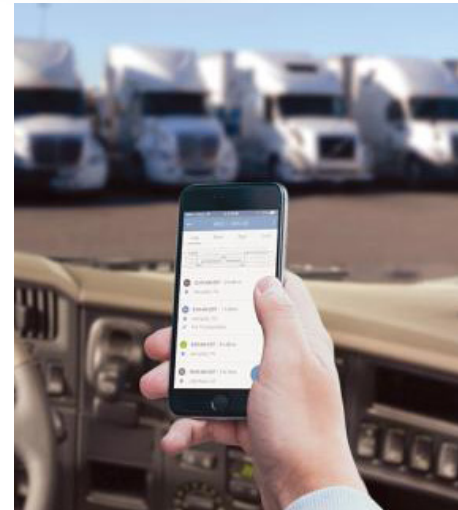
NASHVILLE (October) KeepTruckin Inc. officials announced that the transportation technology leader will invest \$3.6 million and create approximately 385 skilled jobs in Nashville over the next three years.

San Francisco-based KeepTruckin, a Google Ventures-backed startup, develops modern fleet management solutions that improve the operational efficiency of fleets and promote safety on the road. In less than five years, KeepTruckin has built the world's largest network of over 500,000 connected drivers, a significant step in bringing the world's trucks online to make fleets more efficient and roads safer.

"In the past year we've experienced tremendous growth in our Nashville office and we're proud to deepen our commitment to the city by investing in hiring local talent," KeepTruckin CEO and Co-Founder Shoaib Makani said. *"Nashville's rapid growth echoes our own, and we welcome the opportunity to diversify the job economy and shape the flourishing startup scene."*

Founded in 2013, KeepTruckin established a Nashville office last year. To accommodate its growth the company has moved its operations to 159 4th Ave. N, the annex to downtown Nashville's L&C Tower. KeepTruckin currently employs approximately 60 Nashville employees. As part of its Nashville expansion, KeepTruckin plans to hire sales representatives, managers and operations personnel. Source: TN ECD

KEEP TRUCKIN



H&M Bay, Inc To Create 45 New Jobs as Part of \$4.5 Million Investment

LAWRENCEBURG, (October) Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Ethan Hadley and H&M Bay, Inc. announced that the company will establish its eighth cold storage consolidation center in Lawrenceburg. H&M Bay plans to invest \$4.5 million and create 10 full-time, 35 part-time jobs in Lawrence County over the next five years.

"I'm pleased H&M Bay, a privately owned, family-run business, has picked Lawrence County, Tennessee as home for its newest operation," Hadley said. *"Because of exceptional transportation businesses like H&M Bay, Lawrenceburg continues to grow as a hub of logistics and supply chain management companies dedicated to serve the eastern United States. H&M Bay is an excellent addition to our community and we*

are grateful that this investment brings several new opportunities for the people of Lawrence County."

H&M Bay will locate operations in the Team Lawrence Commerce Park, a Select Tennessee Certified Site. The company will build a 51,000-square-foot facility that will be operational in the second quarter of 2019.

Founded in 1982, H&M Bay has built a reputation as the country's premier logistics provider for LTL frozen and refrigerated commodities. Headquartered in Federalsburg, Maryland, H&M Bay also has operations in Massachusetts, North Carolina, Florida, Texas, Indiana, California, and Washington.

Source: Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce

Austin Consulting, TNECD Assess Sites in Giles and Lawrence Counties

LAWRENCE & GILES COUNTIES (October) TNECD and Austin Consulting visited Giles and Lawrence Counties for Select Tennessee Property Evaluation Program (PEP) site visits. The group visited potential industrial sites in each county and will provide reports to each outlining the best opportunities for site development.



LA VERGNE (October) Global healthcare and logistics company, Cardinal Health, Inc. plans to expand its presence in La Vergne by constructing a new facility, representing a \$21.3 million capital investment and the creation of 95 new jobs for Rutherford County. The new location will service the pharmaceutical business segment and house a customer support center and specialty pharmacy.

The Rutherford County Industrial Development Board also approved a seven-year \$721,700 tax abatement for Cardinal Health for adding the 95 jobs with an average annual pay of \$43,143.

Cardinal Health has operated in La Vergne for more than a decade and proposed to make a \$21.3 million capital investment, the Younger report indicates. In return, the expansion would generate \$2.4 million in tax revenues.

Under the deal, the company proposes to add 80 hourly employees at an average annual pay of \$36,200 and benefits worth about 34 percent of the pay added to the compensation. Cardinal Health also will add 15 salaried jobs with an average annual pay of \$80,400 and benefits that equal 21.4 percent of that pay.

For every \$1 in tax abatement, the Cardinal Health expansion is expected to generate \$3.37 in tax revenues.

Source: Daily News Journal

Cardinal Health Looking to Expand Operations in La Vergne



CardinalHealth™



Automation^{nth} Hires Engineers

LA VERGNE (October) Automation^{nth}, a La Vergne based engineering and manufacturing company plans to expand locally and adding 34 new jobs with salaries averaging approximately \$60,000. This expansion will allow the company to optimize manufacturing equipment by providing engineering services and control panel fabrication and assembly.

Automation, which makes control panel assemblies for the automotive and life science industries, is making a \$3.2 million capital investment. The expansion is expected to generate \$554,226 in tax revenues.

The Rutherford County Industrial Development Board agreed to a five-year \$178,749 tax abatement in exchange for the company adding the 34 jobs. The company plans to add five hourly workers with an average pay of \$20 per hour with benefits valued at 20 percent of their pay, and 29 salaried employees who will make an average of \$30 per hour with benefits valued at 20 percent of pay.

The Automation company has engineers who develop "smart systems" for automation that benefits "clients all over the world," said Patrick Cammack, a senior vice president of economic development for the chamber.

For every \$1 in tax abatement, the Automation expansion will generate \$3.10 in tax revenues.

Source: Daily News Journal



Barge Manufacturer Announces 300-Job Expansion in Ashland City



ASHLAND CITY (November) Arcosa Marine officials announced that the inland barge manufacturer will invest more than \$10 million to expand its operations in Ashland City and create 300 jobs during the next five years.

Trinity Marine Products, now doing business as Arcosa Marine, is a leading manufacturer of transport barges for inland waterways. The company produces multiple barge lines, barge covers, deck fittings and hardware. Arcosa Marine currently employs approximately 240 people at its Ashland City operations.

Source: TN ECD

Japanese Auto Supplier Picks Maury County for New \$61M Plant

MOUNT PLEASANT (November) Fuel Total Systems (FTS) officials announced that the company will locate its new manufacturing facility in Maury County. The automotive components manufacturer will create 150 new jobs and invest approximately \$60.9 million in Mount Pleasant.

With this new location, FTS will be better suited to serve its Southeastern customers. The company will build a new 110,000-square-foot facility in the Cherry Glen Industrial park, a Select Tennessee Certified site.

FTS is a manufacturer of automotive plastic fuel tank systems and related automotive components. The company focuses on the development, design, manufacturing, and sale of fuel tanks, appurtenant parts, as well as engine and Hybrid parts. FTS is based in Japan and has operations in Kentucky.

Source: TN ECD



Bridgestone Announces \$40M Expansion

project, will add 30 jobs. The current workforce is approximately 1,100 on site. Bridgestone said it expects the expansion to come online by the end of 2020.

Bridgestone continues to make upgrades to the Warren County plant to increase production. In 1993, three years after the plant opened, tire production was 2,500 a day. Thanks to many improvements, production has climbed to 9,125 tires a day. The announced expansion will bring daily production to 9,400 tires per day.

MORRISON (November) One of Warren County's largest employers is inflating. Bridgestone announced it's expanding their Warren County plant to increase tire production. The company says it will invest \$40 million to add 32,000 square feet of manufacturing space and new equipment that will increase plant capacity by 275 tires per day. The expansion will address greater market demand for the commercial truck and bus radial tires manufactured locally.

Officials are expected to break ground before the end of the year. The expansion, billed as a three-year

"Warren County is one of the company's most productive operations and this investment will further improve the plant's global competitive position by expanding production capacity for truck and bus radial tires," said Greg Harris, executive director of commercial manufacturing for Bridgestone Americas.

The Bridgestone plant is a 28-year old, nationally recognized facility. It has earned numerous awards for its sustainability initiatives and workplace safety programs.

Source: www.rubbernews.com



Amazon Promises \$750M Annual Income Jolt to State

NASHVILLE (November) As Amazon announced its second headquarters will be located in New York City and Northern Virginia, the e-commerce giant also announced it is investing \$230 million in Nashville and adding 5,000 jobs at a new operations site.

The new Amazon site will be located at Nashville Yards, located downtown.

The Nashville Yards site, near Interstate 40, includes plans for a massive complex of hotels, shops, restaurants, apartments, offices and a 1.3-acre park.

The announcement comes more than a year after Amazon said it was scoping cities for a second headquarters and received 238 bids for the designation. The investment in Nashville marks a significant job gain for the city.

The Nashville jobs will include management and tech-focused jobs, including software developers, with earnings expected to average \$150,000, expecting to recruit locally and from outside of the area.

The new site, dubbed the Operations Center of Excellence, will be responsible for the company's customer fulfillment, transportation, supply chain, and other similar activities. Amazon said it will receive performance-based incentives of up to \$102 million based on the company creating 5,000 jobs with average wages greater than \$150,000. That includes a \$65 million cash grant for capital expenditures from the state over the next seven years, or \$13,000 per job. It also includes a \$15 million cash grant from Metro Nashville over the next seven years, based on \$500 for each job. A nearly \$22 million job tax credit will offset franchise and excise taxes from Tennessee as well.

Amazon said incentives weighed in their decisions for sites but said talent was the biggest factor. *"Economic incentives were one factor in our decision – but attracting top talent was the leading driver,"* the company said in a release.

Source: The Tennessean

Accounting Giant EY Picks Nashville for New Tech Hub, creating 600 Jobs

NASHVILLE (November) Professional services firm Ernst & Young will create more than 600 jobs in Nashville during the next five years.

The company, which has a presence in the city with 300 employees and has operated here since 1958, will take space at the mixed-use building 18th & Chet being built at the northeast corner of the intersection of 18th Avenue south and Chet Atkins Place in Music Row. An August 2019 date is targeted for the company to be operational at the new location.

Specifically, EY will offer tax managed services and tax technology operations – to be called the EY EDGE Center – from the office, according to a release that puts the firm's investment at about \$22.7 million. The center will include software development, design and testing and technology-enabled tax-managed services for clients.

The EY EDGE Center will occupy a temporary office space until the opening of the office at 18th & Chet. The firm is hiring at all levels.

The announcement comes after EY announced earlier this year it will move its Nashville team to the 222 2nd building in SoBro in January 2019, relocating from 150 Fourth Ave N.



Real estate development company Hall Emery is building this 10-story office building at 820 18th Ave. S., in Midtown Nashville. Accounting giant Ernst & Young has just signed a lease for part of the building's 136,000 square feet of office space.

Headquartered in London, EY is one of the largest professional services firms in the world and is one of the "Big Four" accounting firms. The company is home to more than 250,000 employees working in about 700 offices in about 150 countries.

EY provides assurance (including financial audit), tax, consulting and advisory services to companies. Its North American headquarters are in New York.

Source: Nashville Post

Truform Manufacturing Dials Up Third Major Expansion in Dickson Since 2012



DICKSON (November) Truform Manufacturing, LLC officials announced that the automotive and appliance supplier will invest approximately \$14 million to expand its operations in Dickson and create nearly 90 jobs over the next five years. This is Truform's third major expansion since 2012.

A subsidiary of Sisler Manufacturing Group, Truform operates an ISO/IATF 16949 metal stamping and assembly facility in Dickson, producing components and modular assemblies for Tier-1 suppliers and OEMs in the automotive and appliance industries. The expansion is driven by growth in both appliance and automotive segments.

The company will add approximately 40,000-square-foot to its Dickson operations, where the company currently employs approximately 160 Tennesseans. Truform anticipates the new expansion will be open and operational in the third quarter of 2019.

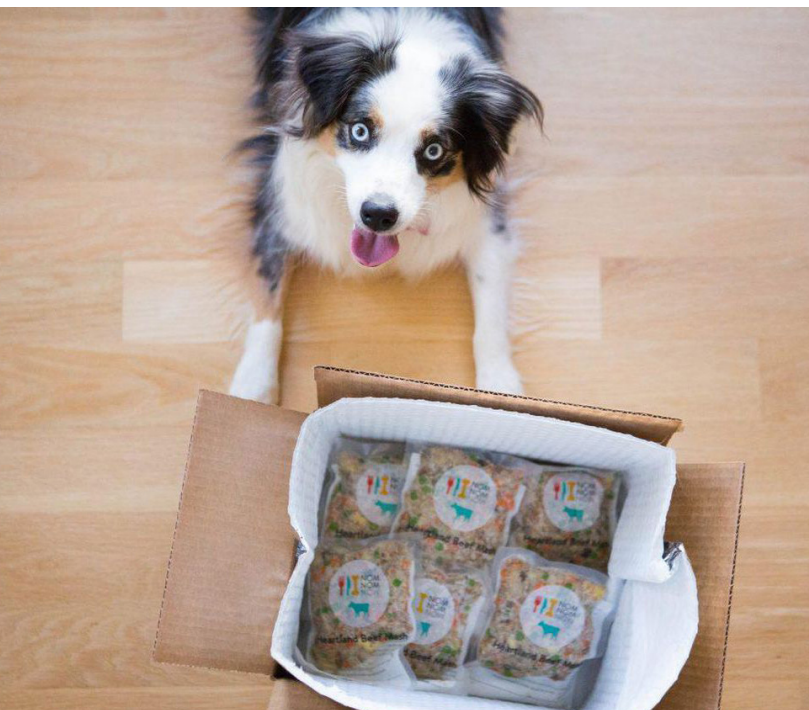
Source: TN ECD

Fresh Pet Food Maker Serves Up 180 New Nashville Jobs

NASHVILLE (November) NomNomNow, Inc. officials announced that the company will locate its new production facility in Davidson County.

The fresh pet food producer and distributor will create 181 new jobs and invest approximately \$1.7 million in Nashville.

NomNomNow, headquartered in the San Francisco Bay Area, crafts and delivers meals for dogs and cats that are custom, made-to-order with fresh, restaurant-quality ingredients—all with the convenience of automatic reorder and free shipping. NomNomNow meals are individually pre-proportioned, tailored to meet the specific nutritional needs of each pet, and arrive ready to serve with no prep. Today, NomNomNow serves pets across 48 states.



With this new location, NomNomNow will be better equipped to serve its East Coast customers. Once the facility is operational, it will be the largest freshly made to order pet food production facility in North America.

This expansion comes on the heels of the launch of NomNomNow's fresh, made-to-order nutrition for cats, and the company's announcement of \$13 million in venture funding (consisting of a \$10 million Series A round, and a previously unannounced \$3 million seed round).

Source: TN ECD



New Boat Maker to Call Middle Tennessee Home, Create 280 Jobs

ASHLAND CITY (November) A new boat maker is launching in Ashland City, where the company's \$30.3 million investment is expected to create 280 jobs.

Caymas Boats, founded by Nashville-based executive Earl Bentz, will renovate two existing buildings located on Highway 12. Production on freshwater and saltwater fiberglass boats is expected to begin in February 2019. The new Caymas Boats plant will initially manufacture saltwater bay boats up to 27 feet in length, and fiberglass bass boats up to 21 feet long. The company will add additional models in the future. Caymas Boats' models will be versatile for fishing and other recreational activities.

"All of us at Caymas Boats are thrilled to bring fiberglass boatbuilding back home to Ashland City," Bentz said in a state news release. "I'm especially proud that many area craftsmen who formerly built Stratos, Javelin and Triton boats have already signed onto the Caymas workforce. These loyal and highly skilled men and women already have decades of boatbuilding expertise, assuring that Caymas Boats will lead the marine industry in quality and innovation."

Bentz, a member of the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, founded Stratos Boats in 1983 and Triton Boats in 1996.

Source: Nashville Business Journal



Ceramics Company Bringing HQs, First U.S. Plant to Baxter



BAXTER (December) Portobello America, Inc. officials announced that the company will locate its U.S. headquarters and first U.S. production facility in Baxter. The ceramic tile manufacturer will create 220 jobs and invest approximately \$150 million in Putnam County.

Portobello, headquartered in Brazil, is the largest tile manufacturer in Brazil. The company serves countries on five continents and internal markets through multi-brand retailers, the Portobello Shop franchise and sales channel for engineering. Portobello has more than 2,600 employees, responsible for the design and innovation of items that launch trends in architecture and interior design in Brazil.

Portobello will locate its new operations on the Tennessee Motor Speedway site in Putnam County, where the company will build a new facility. Construction on the facility is set to be complete by 2021.

Source: TN ECD

Lowe's Opens Massive Robertson County Distribution Hub

COOPERTOWN (December) Lowe's opened its \$150 million distribution and fulfillment center in Robertson County, which spans 1.1 million square-feet. Lowe's has expanded its footprint in Middle Tennessee by the size of 22 football fields. That's how much space is inside its new state-of-the-art direct-fulfillment center in Robertson County.

The center now employs 200 people; Lowe's aims to employ 600 people by 2023. That would represent approximately 13 percent of the population of Coopertown, which the facility calls home. Lowe's investment is valued at more than \$150 million, according to the company.

Construction began in August of 2016 and included 4,100 tons of steel and 200 miles of electric wiring – enough to stretch from Nashville to Memphis. Once fully operational, the center will be able to ship 100,000 packages a day to customers nationwide and to stores through 15 regional distribution centers.



Nashville has become an important distribution hub for retailers, as Lowe's joins a local roster that includes an Under Armour facility in Mt. Juliet and a Gap facility in Gallatin. Geography plays a critical role: As Lowe's notes, its new facility can deliver packages to 75 percent of the country in two days or less. Charlotte-based Lowe's has 16 stores in the Nashville region, employing more than 2,500 people.

Source: Nashville Business Journal



Electroplating Manufacturer to Create 200 Jobs

PORTLAND (December) Advanced Plating, Inc. will expand its Middle Tennessee operations by locating a new facility in Portland. The electroplating manufacturer will create 200 jobs and invest approximately \$4 million in Sumner County.

Advanced Plating provides electroplating services for the automotive, architectural fixtures and musical instrument industries. The company specializes in turnkey components as well as surface finishing technologies including polishing, anodizing, powder coating, chrome, nickel, gold and other plating finishes. Established in 1962, Advanced Plating is the largest automotive restoration plating company in the world and the largest manufacturer of OEM electric guitar components in the U.S.

With this expansion, Advanced Plating will move its operations into a 115,000-square-foot facility in Portland to keep up with growing demand.

Source: TN ECD



100 New Jobs Coming to Dickson County



WHITE BLUFF (December) Ebbtide Holdings, LLC officials announced that the boat manufacturer will establish a plant in White Bluff and create nearly 100 jobs over the next five years.

Ebbtide Holdings, LLC, makers of Boca Bay and Aquasport boats, has been undergoing the process of locating operations at the previous Ebbtide manufacturing facility at 2545 Jones Creek Road in White Bluff.

Ebbtide Holdings bought the property this year and company staff have been cleaning and renovating the property since that time, said Chief Financial Officer David Sydes in a September interview with The Herald.

The company anticipates the 140,000-square-foot plant will be operational in the coming weeks. Ebbtide Holdings will manufacture center console sporting

boats ranging from 20 to 30 feet in length at the new facility.

"Ebbtide Holdings LLC is proud to call White Bluff, Tennessee home. We are very excited to tap into the experienced boat builders in the area," Stephen Daves, president of Ebbtide Holdings LLC, said. *"I'd like to thank Dickson County and the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development for supporting us, so we can bring boat building back to Dickson County."*

County Mayor Bob Rial said he welcomed the Ebbtide Holdings "commitment to Dickson County" and thanked company officials. In September, Rial explained to the Dickson County Commission the company's focus and background. The commission then approved the county acting as conduit for state grant money to flow through so the Ebbtide Holdings owners could use \$200,000 for improvements to the facility. The grant came from the state Department of Economic and Community Development.

The previous Ebbtide company was for decades operated by Dickson County resident Timmy Trabue. He sold the business to a Chinese-based company in 2012. The facility had closed a few years ago. Ebbtide Holdings was founded in November of 2016.

Source: The Tennessean



Auto Supplier Readies \$40M Investment for New Fayetteville Plant

FAYETTEVILLE (December) HIROTEC AMERICA, Inc. officials announced that the automotive supplier will construct a new manufacturing facility in Fayetteville.

HIROTEC AMERICA, a member of the Japan-based HIROTEC Group, will invest around \$40 million and create more than 100 jobs in Lincoln County over the next three years. The company will build its plant in the Runway Centre Industrial Park, a Select Tennessee Certified Site. Construction will begin in the second



quarter of 2019, and HIROTEC AMERICA anticipates the plant will be operational in the third quarter of 2020.

HIROTEC AMERICA, established in 1988 with its headquarters in Auburn Hills, Mich., is an automotive Tier 1 supplier specializing in manufacturing tooling. This new location in Tennessee will add part production capacity in the United States.

Source: TN ECD

Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association 2018-2019 Executive Committee

President

Mark Kimbell | General Manager
Gallatin Department of Electricity

Vice President

Keith Carnahan | CEO
Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative

Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Taylor | Superintendent
CDE Lightband

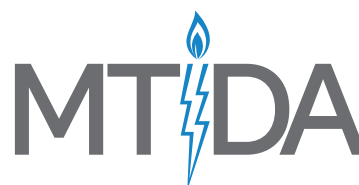
Members

Chris Jones | President
Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation

Rodney Boyd | General Manager & CEO
McMinnville Electric System

Chris Davis | General Manager
Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation

Jessica Breaux | Regional Consultant
Tennessee Valley Authority



The MTIDA *Industry Leader* is published by the Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association

2108 Westwood Avenue
Nashville, TN 37212
P 615-269-5233
F 615-269-5184
E mtida@mtida.org
W www.mtida.org

Robert T. Bibb | Executive Director

Kendrick J. Curtis, PhD | Assistant Executive Director

Dawn E. Olson | Executive Assistant

Wendi K. Powell | Graphic Designer