

# HEADLINES

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Expanding Companies

#### Cullman County

**Royal Technologies Corporation**, a maker of polymer products for automotive, furniture, and consumer goods industries, is planning a \$14 million expansion that will add 176,000SF and 25 new jobs.

#### Jackson County

**NCI Manufacturing**, an automotive supplier in Scottsboro, announced plans to invest approximately \$3 million in additional machinery and add 8 new jobs.

**WestRock**, maker of corrugated medium paperboard in Stevenson, announced plans to upgrade and add new machinery investing approximately \$3.6 million.

**Toyobo Industrial Materials America**, maker of airbag fabric in Scottsboro, announced plans to invest \$7.6 million in new machinery that will create approximately 22 new jobs.

#### Limestone County

**Steelcase**, an office furniture manufacturer and the largest employer in Athens, announced they will invest \$7,370,000 for a major equipment upgrade. This upgrade will make the plant more efficient.

#### Madison County

**Parsons** located in Huntsville, will add 25,000SF and create 50 jobs. The facility will be the primary location for Parsons work on U.S. Department of Defense, Army, Air Force and intelligence agency programs.

**Teledyne Brown Engineering**, an industry leader in full-spectrum engineering and advanced manufacturing solutions for harsh environments in the space, defense, energy, and maritime industries, held a ground breaking ceremony on October 19<sup>th</sup> for its new 22,000SF manufacturing facility in Huntsville. This will be the ninth building constructed on the company's main campus. This facility will allow the company to meet growing demands for complex systems across multiple markets.

#### Morgan County

**Pettey Machine Works**, a machine shop located in Trinity, will invest \$185,000 for an equipment expansion. This upgrade will create 1 new job.

## NAIDA Gold Corporate Partners

#### AGRACEL, Inc.

www.agracel.com  
Todd Thoman  
217.342.4443

#### CLAYCO

www.claycorp.com  
Alex DeMartini  
314.595.6394

#### Maynard Cooper Gale

www.maynardcooper.com  
Christopher Smith  
256.251.0171  
Tom Brinkley  
205.254.1078

#### SilMan Construction

www.silmanconstruction.com  
Lucas Gillott  
256.585.5281

#### Spectrum Enterprise

www.charter.com  
Tammy Thompson  
256.221.0207

#### T.W. Frierson Construction

www.twfrierson.com  
Tom Gregory  
615.476.7366

*These companies have made a commitment to economic development in North Alabama and we hope that companies considering a location in North Alabama will look to our Corporate Partners for their project services.*

## UPDATES

#### Madison County

**Toyota** announced plans to invest \$106 million and add 50 jobs at its engine plant in Huntsville. This investment will replace the current four-cylinder engine line and will build the next generation of engines using Toyota New Global Architecture (TNGA). The TNGA engines will have increased power performance, efficiencies and fuel economy, while retaining values such as exceptional quality and safety. One-third of the engines in North American-built Toyota vehicles are produced in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Cummings Research Park** the second largest research park in the country and fourth largest in the world, celebrates 55 years establishing a legacy of success and innovation in Huntsville's Rocket City.

Governor Kay Ivey led the groundbreaking ceremony for the **D.S. Davidson Invention to Innovation Center** on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The \$16 million, 46,650SF project is located off Holmes Avenue next to the UAH College of Business in Huntsville. The center is scheduled to open in 2019.

# HEADLINES

## Expanding Companies

### Morgan County (continued)

**Daikin America** will make investments for expansion by spending \$14,000,000 to update aging equipment at the Technical Center as well as an investment of \$5 million to add a new refrigerant blending process. This expansion will create 9 jobs along with a new facility for operation.

## MEDIA

*Area Development*, a national economic development-focused publication, ranked Alabama No. 6 in the overall "Top States for Doing Business." Alabama has placed in the overall Top 10 Area Development's rankings every year for at least eight years, underscoring a consistent high-level emphasis on economic development for the state. In its analysis, Area Development singled out Alabama's AdvantageSite program, which has brought more than 20 projects and \$1 billion in investment since its inception in 2008, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management for its quick work on permitting. The magazine also highlighted the accomplishments of AIDT, the state's primary workforce development agency and part of the Alabama Department of Commerce.

## EDUCATION-TRAINING

Alabama is the first state to offer Manufacturing Skills Standards Council Credentials statewide. The Alabama Community College System is partnering with the MSSC to offer Industry-led credentials at every 2-year school in the state. Beginning in the Spring of 2018 students will have the ability to become certified as a Certified Production Technician (CPT) or Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) through the completion of approved coursework and training.

### Morgan County

*Leon Sheffield Magnet Elementary School* of Decatur, was recognized as a 2017 Blue Ribbon School. This award is the highest national honor given by the U.S. Department of Education to a school where students achieve very high learning standards. *Crestline Elementary School* of Hartselle was also recognized by receiving the Blue Ribbon Lighthouse School Award. This award is based on achievement of excellent performance in all nine major categories of the Blueprint for Excellence assessment.

## PROSPECT VISITS

During the months of September and October NAIDA assisted with 4 prospect visits to North Alabama.

## UPDATES

**Aerojet Rocketdyne** held the ground breaking ceremony for the company's new manufacturing facility in Huntsville on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The new facility will produce rocket engines and other components for rockets. The company's expansion plans will bring roughly 800 jobs to Huntsville. The new jobs will have an average annual salary of about \$80,000.



### Morgan County

On September 28<sup>th</sup> *Calhoun Community College* in Decatur, held the groundbreaking ceremony for its new \$6.9 million, 23,400SF Automotive Technology Training Center. The new building will be developed over two major construction phases. The first phase construction is scheduled for completion in fall 2018.

### Lauderdale County

Site preparation has begun for a new 40,000SF speculative building in the Rogersville Business Park. The building will have 36' eave heights and will be expandable to 80,000SF. Construction is projected to be completed in April 2018.



## NAIDA STAFF

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