

# **HEADLINES**

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**New Companies** 

### **Jackson County**

**Nytef Plastics, Ltd.**, a division of Polymer Industries, will locate in Pisgah in an existing facility. The company will invest \$3.25 million and create 35 jobs. Nytef Plastics is a leading manufacturer of engineering grade thermoplastic stock shapes (rod, plate, and heavy walled tube). Their products are used by machine shops and original equipment manufacturers worldwide to produce close tolerance machined components.

**Taylor Manufacturing, Inc.,** a five generation, family owned business, founded in 1939, announced the company will move to Jackson County. Taylor Mfg. is a machine shop that specializes in precision machined parts for aerospace and commercial industries. The company will move into an existing building in Stevenson. The facility is expected to be fully operational by April/May of 2016 and hire 10-20 new employees over the next few months.

### **Lauderdale County**

**NextEra Energy** announced the company is planning to develop a solar farm in western Lauderdale County. The company will invest \$150 million into the "River Bend Solar Project" on 640 acres. NextEra has an agreement to sell the power generated from the 80-megawatt solar farm to the Tennessee Valley Authority for 20 years. The solar farm is expected to produce enough energy to serve about 15,000 homes.

### **Limestone County**

**Shape Corporation,** a full-service supplier in engineering, testing and manufacturing of metal and plastic solutions, announced plans to construct a new manufacturing facility on a 34 acre site in Breeding Industrial Park in Athens. The company will invest \$24 million and should be operational in 2016. The new injection molding and roll forming operation will bring 170 jobs.

*GE Aviation* announced the company will invest \$200 million in two adjacent aviation facilities in Huntsville/Limestone County. Construction of the two plants will begin mid-2016, with completion in 2018. Once complete, workers will mass-produce silicon carbide (SiC) materials used to manufacture ceramic matrix composite components (CMCs) for jet engines and land-based gas turbines. One plant will produce silicon carbide (SiC) ceramic fiber. It will be the first such operation in the United States. The adjacent GE factory will use the SiC ceramic fiber to produce the unidirectional CMC tape necessary to fabricate CMC components. Production is scheduled to begin 2018.

# **NAIDA Platinum Corporate Partner**



## ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS

Southern Synergy, Inc., (SSI) is a full service engineering company capable of providing a complete range of services to clients from engineering studies and capital cost estimates through detailed design, procurement, construction assistance, commissioning and on-site design support service. As a full service engineering firm, SSI is capable of providing process, mechanical, electrical, instrumentation, civil, structural and controls engineering and design services.

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This company has 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**

### **Cullman County**

**REHAU**, opened its first North American technical center at the company's manufacturing facility in Cullman. This will allow process developments for products REHAU manufactures for the U.S. automotive market to be done mainly in Cullman. Announced in 2012, the new 12,000 s/f facility will serve as an American based site to handle research and development functions. REHAU opened its first plant in Cullman in 1995 and a second in 2007. REHAU's plants in Cullman produce bumpers, spoilers and rocker panels for automakers.

### **Madison County**

**Toyota Motor Manufacturing Alabama** celebrated its 4 millionth engine that rolled off the assembly line in Huntsville. Toyota Alabama makes four-cylinder, V6 and V8 engines. The Huntsville facility is the only Toyota site in the world to produce all three under one roof, making it the largest Toyota engine plant globally.



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### **UPDATES**

### **Madison County (continued)**

Lockheed Martin was awarded a new nine-year, \$784 million contract by the *Missile Defense Agency*. Lockheed Martin will lead a team responsible for developing, building and testing Long Range Discrimination Radar (LRDR) to support layered ballistic missile defense strategy to protect the U.S. from attacks. There will be four Huntsville companies that will work with Lockheed Martin on the contract.

**Lockheed Martin** is making plans to bring 100 jobs within the next year to Huntsville as part of its Command, Control, Battle Management and Communications (C2BMC) program. This is a step to consolidate facilities and increase their presence in Huntsville.

HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, has received a \$100,000 grant to help establish its new genomic medical clinic. HudsonAlpha's mission has been to utilize the power of genomics to help improve lives. The Institute has faculty members who specialize in reading a patient's genetic profile to diagnose and treat rare diseases. In November, the Institute will open the world's first clinic devoted to that approach.

Grant: Jane K. Lowe Charitable Foundation

#### Additional Grants

**National Institute of Health (NIH)** awarded \$1.9 million to develop new ways of identifying how one's DNA can make them more likely to have a disease.

**U.S. Department of Energy** awarded \$1.2 million to identify genes in a potential biofuel source.

## **Morgan County**

United Launch Alliance (ULA) celebrated its 100th successful launch on October 2, out of Cape Canaveral, Florida. The Atlas V rocket was carrying a Morelos-3 satellite for Mexico's Ministry of Communications and Transportation. This launch was ULA's 12th for a non U.S. government customer and one of three ordered from Mexico's Mexsat constellation.

### **Morgan County (continued)**

**United Launch Alliance (ULA)** delivered the NASA Space Launch System Interim Cryogenic Propulsion Stage test article to Boeing, an important step toward Exploration Mission 1 and the Journey to Mars.



### **PROSPECT VISITS**

During the months of September and October NAIDA participated in seven prospect visits for North Alabama.

### **MARKETING**



The North Alabama Industrial Development Assn.'s trade show booth was used recently at CMTS (Canadian Machine Tool Show) in Mississauga, Canada and at the Southern Automotive Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

#### NAIDA STAFF



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