

HEADLINES

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW COMPANIES

Morgan County

Wolverine Industries announced they will reopen the facility in Decatur and resume operations by the end of the year. The new operation will shape aluminum billets into rail-car roofs for Bombardier, as well as components used in John Deere tractors, and possibly aluminum bridge decking. This investment of approximately \$16 million will create 250 jobs within three years.

EXPANDING COMPANIES

Cullman County

Inland Building, a maker of metal buildings and related support structures, was approved by the Cullman Planning Commission for an expansion of 11,550SF, \$735,000, and 25 jobs.

Limestone County

North Alabama Laserfab, Inc., a manufacturing services provider located in Lester, will purchase a new Trumpf Trulaser at a cost of \$575,000. The company plans to hire an additional 5 employees over the next 3 years.

Madison County

Simple Helix, an advanced web hosting company specializing in eCommerce solutions, opens the Tier III Data Center in Huntsville. The new state-of-the-art enterprise class data center is designed to provide a resilient secure, high performance environment for business applications and mission critical data. Simple Helix offers a variety of services such as secure colocation, web hosting, disaster recovery, managed cloud services, and managed IT solutions for small to medium businesses, government, and Department of Defense contractors.

BASF announced the completion of its site expansion for the mobile emissions catalysts production facility in Huntsville. The site expansion began 18 months ago and created 10 additional jobs. The expansion enables BASF to continue creating emission control technologies for cleaner air while simultaneously helping the automotive industry grow. The Huntsville facility celebrated a manufacturing milestone with the production of the 400 millionth automotive catalytic converter and by also significantly reducing production waste achieving a Virtually Zero Waste Facility certification. This is a prominent title awarded for facilities that responsibly and innovatively reduce waste.

NAIDA Platinum Corporate Partner



A full-service general contracting and construction management firm, Fite has earned its reputation as one of the premier building partners in the Southeast by delivering quality jobs through experienced construction professionals, dependable communication with owner and architects and a commitment to detailed follow through during the entire building process. Our team excels in both design-build and traditional construction projects.

Contact: Chuck Reep, 256.353.5759

www.fitebuilding.com



This company has made a commitment to economic development in North Alabama and we encourage companies considering a location in North Alabama to utilize the services of our Corporate Partners.

EDUCATION

Governor Kay Ivey announced a state grant of \$10 million will be given to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville. This grant will fund a new U.S. Cyber Camp and the campus expansion needed to provide additional space for the center and museum. The main goal of the Cyber Camp is to be a place where students can go to become inspired about the future of technology and to make them more aware of careers and degrees in cybersecurity. The camp covers the basics of computer science, hacking and network security. The US Army, FBI, Department of Homeland Security, National Security Agency, NASA, and other federal organizations are interested in participating in the program.



HEADLINES

(Expanding Companies continued)

Morgan County

Daikin America announced an investment to expand an area of their facility involved in the reclamation of chemical used in the manufacture of surgical anesthetics. The expansion will upgrade the building, expand an office area, refurbish and expand a laboratory, as well as a control room and other facilities.

United Launch Alliance announced they will invest \$115.6 million on new technology and infrastructure in preparation to build the Vulcan launch system at the Decatur facility.

Dynetics announced plans for a second facility that broke ground August 29th on the ULA site. This facility will be 25,000SF, have a \$7.4 million investment, and will add 15 additional jobs. The company will manufacture parts for NASA and other customers.

UPDATES

Madison County

Yulista, a leader in the modernization and service life extension of rotary and fixed wing aircraft, opened its 80,000SF aviation hanger on August 10th at the Huntsville Executive airport in Meridianville, AL. The M5 Hangar increases the Yulista Aviation Complex to over 175,000SF. With the increase of capacity it will allow for new contracts and better service for customers through support of different missions, platforms, and by leveraging the knowledge base between subsidiaries.



Colbert/ Lauderdale County

The Shoals Economic Development Authority (SEDA), proposed four projects to encourage economic growth in the Shoals at their July Board meeting. The Shoals Industrial Development committee reviewed the recommendation made by the SEDA Board and approved the projects, dedicating \$6.5 million from the Shoals Economic Development Fund. The proposal included the construction of two industrial speculative buildings, the purchase and renovation of a technology speculative building, and an industrial road project.

PROSPECT VISITS

During the months of July and August NAIDA participated in two prospect visits for North Alabama.

AWARDS

The Economic Development Partnership of Alabama held the **EDPA 2017 Innovation Awards** on August 23rd to honor companies and innovators that strengthen Alabama's economy, generate jobs and develop new ideas. Two of North Alabama's companies were selected. ZeroRPM of Cullman received the Corporate Innovator of the Year Award among small companies with up to 50 employees. The company is recognized for its battery-powered ZeroRPM Idle Mitigation System that allows a vehicle to idle without running the engine. The other company recognized was Diatherix of Huntsville, which received the Corporate Innovator of the Year Award among large companies with more than 50 employees. This award was in recognition for its pathogen detection technology, which enables healthcare providers to more accurately determine the cause of an infection and determine multiple infection sources. EDPA also honored Jim Hudson, co-founder of the HudsonAlpha Institute of Biotechnology, in Huntsville with The Lifetime Achievement in Innovation Award.

22nd Annual NAIDA Conference
November 14-15, 2017
Marriott Shoals Hotel and Conference Center
Florence, Alabama



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