

HEADLINES

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New

Cullman County

Covington Casket, a casket manufacturer based in Andalusia, AL, will invest \$500K to locate a distribution center in Cullman. This project will create 2-3 jobs.

Lawrence County

First Solar Inc., an American manufacturer of solar panels, and a provider of utility-scale PV power plants, will invest \$1.1 billion to establish a manufacturing facility at the Mallard Fox West Industrial Complex. The new facility is expected to advance a strategic push by the company to scale its U.S. manufacturing base in support of the effort to decarbonize the American economy and achieve self-sufficiency in reliable and competitive renewable energy technologies. This project will create over 700 new jobs.

Expanding

DeKalb County

Rainsville Technology, Inc., a Japanese-based automotive parts manufacturer, will invest \$16 million on an expansion to add new equipment to its facility.

Jackson County

CFD Research held a groundbreaking ceremony on November 2, 2022 for its new engineering test and evaluation facility located in Hollywood, AL. This facility will support work for an ongoing contract with the Army Space and Missile Defense Command. It will expand the team's capability to provide services, support technology development, and enable increased test capacity. The expansion also includes 63 acres of property and an additional test stand.



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

Expanding (Continued)

Limestone County

Morgan Metals

will invest \$285,000 to expand its custom metal fabrication operations in Athens, AL. This expansion will create 4 new jobs.



Madison County

Aerojet Rocketdyne will expand its presence in Huntsville by adding a new 379,000 SF state-of-the-art facility near Huntsville International Airport. This new facility will bring job opportunities, office space and increase manufacturing capacity for the nation's defense production needs.

Morgan County

Beyond Gravity will invest \$42 million on an expansion to double its current production of rocket structures in Decatur. The company is leasing space from United Launch Alliance to manufacture and provide carbon fiber aerospace components (payload fairings or nose cones) for the Vulcan Centaur rocket. The nose cones are used to protect the satellites/payload from high temperatures, solar radiation, dust, noise vibrations and moisture during launch and the first minutes of flight. This project will create 158 jobs.

Media

The Decatur metro area is the 2nd best place to work in manufacturing in the U.S. according to a recent analysis by *SmartAsset*. The survey compared 378 metropolitan areas, looking at manufacturing as a percentage of workforce, as well as job and income growth over the last three years, housing costs and unemployment rate.

Updates

Limestone County

Gregory Industries held a ground breaking ceremony on December 8, 2022 for its new 90,000 SF manufacturing facility



located in Athens, AL. Production will primarily focus on G-Strut metal framing and back-to-back channels, along with related accessories. This project is a \$30 million investment and will bring 100 jobs.

Promoting North Alabama

NAIDA recently hosted a lunch-and-learn meeting with the North Alabama Economic Development Delegation regarding the Growing Alabama Credit Program. A special thank you to Angela Smith of the Alabama Department of Commerce and to Kelly Graham of the Alabama Department of Revenue for their in-depth presentation outlining the details of this important program. Attendees included local EDA officials, as well as North Alabama utility officials who support this initiative in their respective areas. We look forward to more North Alabama success in 2023.

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