

» ADAMS PRODUCTS BRINGS TECH ADVANCEMENTS

Expansion Now Underway on 42 Acres

In a strategic move almost two years ago, Adams Products Company purchased 42 acres of land in HFTC's Edgerton Industrial Park II in Dunn. Today, the company is well on its way toward completion of its new, state-of-the-art factory.

At 91,000 square feet, the plant will be parent company Oldcastle's largest and most technologically advanced masonry plant in the U.S. The project is expected to bring 30 new jobs and \$22 million in tax base to the county once complete, plus project work for local subcontractors.

"The rail and utility infrastructure that Oldcastle has put in place here will benefit other companies in the area, too," said Lee Anne Nance, Director of Harnett County's Economic Development Commission (EDC). "Between their own funding and state DOT grants, these improvements required no local tax dollars."

"With the site's access to Interstate 95 and Harnett County's help in improving the railway spur, bringing in fiber optic cable (for communications), gas lines and three phase power, the Edgerton

property was a great choice for us," said Butch Hardy, Executive



Vice President of Adams Products. "This facility will be a great addition to our growing company."

Adams Products is a subsidiary of Oldcastle APG South, which is a division of Cement Roadstone Holdings, an international supplier and manufacturer of building materials.

UPDATE

As announced in the last issue of Forward Thinking, the board of the Western Harnett Industrial Park (WHIP) is moving forward on the first of two spec buildings. They recently selected David H. Simpson Construction Company out of Sanford as general contractor. WHIP is located on Hwy. 87 between Ft. Bragg and the Research Triangle Park.

» HFTC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2008

Enlist or Rejoin Now!!

It's time once again to get on board with HFTC's membership drive.

"Stakeholders with locations here, plus those who are considering expanding to Harnett County, join HFTC to keep informed of our progress," said Johnson Tilghman, HFTC Chairman. "That's great for HFTC, because it give us diverse perspectives."

Now boasting 100-plus members, the seven-year-old committee continues to expand.

"We're looking for businesspeople who want to work with us to make Harnett County an even more attractive place to do business, live, and work."

Be a part of HFTC's work. The cost of \$200 for companies and \$100 for individuals is tax deductible, since HFTC is a not-for-profit corporation.

To join, send your name, company name (if applicable), address and any other contact information to: HFTC Membership, P.O. Box 1270, Lillington, NC 27546. Phone: 910-893-7524 Fax: 910-893-7589 E-mail: info@harnettforward.org.

MEET your BOARD MEMBERS



BILL LASATER serves as a member of Edgerton Industrial Properties, one of HFTC's non-profit boards.

WHY VOLUNTEER?

"I have several strong interests in seeing

Harnett County grow," he says. Though absent from the area for about 10 years, he returned to raise a family and to co-found a company now in its 25th year. His adult children also live here.

PROFESSION: Lasater is part owner and general manager of Interstate Distributors in Dunn, which employs 45 people. The company provides building

products to retailers within a 150-mile radius of the county.

ROLE OF HFTC'S NON-PROFIT BOARDS:

"Those of us who serve on HFTC's boards know the community. So not only can we help to identify prospective new employers, we can talk to them about the quality of life and the economic advantages of being in Harnett Co."

LOOKING FORWARD: "With the county's location, its growth and BRAC*, we have great potential to bring in additional quality employers. I like the idea of the whole county working together, and HFTC's involvement in this has been outstanding."

*The Base Realignment and Closure Act creating growth at Ft. Bragg.



HFTC BOARD of DIRECTORS

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» Esterline Armtec, supplier of RADAR Countermeasures to the US Armed Forces, has concluded negotiations on an Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ), contract with the US Navy procurement office. The agreement covers a five-year time-frame and blankets the whole product offerings from the Lillington facility. This award will not increase the employment level at the facility or require any major capital expenditures, but it does enhance the company's ability to have continuous work well into the future.

» In a new announcement, Edwards Brothers, Lillington, has purchased and installed a new \$4.5 million hard bound book finishing line which will increase overall finishing capacity about 40 percent. Additionally, a web offset press was recently transferred to the press room from the Michigan

plant bringing with it \$6 million in volume, increasing the sales of the Lillington plant about 20 percent and creating 25 new jobs.

» Congratulations to Total Body Therapy and Wellness, at 22 The Square in Lillington, the latest recipient of an HFTC Small Business Loan.

» The Town of Erwin is moving and shaking. As a recent inductee into the 2008 N.C. Small Towns Economic Prosperity Demonstration Program, it will receive \$30,000 in planning funds for revitalization. It's also eligible for \$100,000 for other projects. In addition, Buffalo Lanes will open a 24-lane bowling alley there in the winter.

» *Harnett Images* magazine is entering its second year. If you'd like to advertise, contact Evan Shaver of Journal Communications: (615)477-2066 or e-mail eshaver@jnlcom.com.

» US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service awarded HFTC \$38,500 in grant monies to restore the longleaf pine on 99 acres of West Park.

» HFTC supports local economic

UPDATE

HFTC'S ERWIN PLANT GETS UPGRADES

HFTC's Erwin Plant is undergoing more improvements, including installation of 13 new industrial ceiling fans and a roof fan.

Next up: installation of new HVAC for the 13,500 square foot office/cafeteria area, to increase comfort for the 109 employees now working there

In 2007, Pentair, with 15,000 employees worldwide, leased the 306,000 square foot plant for five years.

programs by contributing \$1,000 to the first Harnett Regional Agricultural Fair to be held in the Fall of 2009 and \$2,500 to the Harnett Co. Business Education Partnership.

» HFTC has contracted with CPA firm Todd Rivenbark & Puryear, PLLC, to perform its first annual financial audit.