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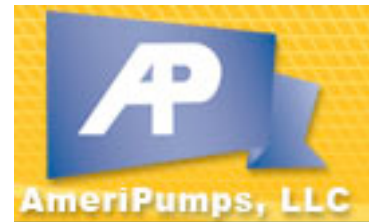
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 29, 2008

AmeriPumps, LLC To Bring 125 New Jobs To Carroll

Ameripumps, LLC will bring 125 jobs to the area and will have an initial capital investment of more than \$4.6 Million, in addition to basing a corporate aircraft at the Twin County Airport.

Governor Timothy M. Kaine today announced that AmeriPumps, LLC, a manufacturer of portable water pumps used in the construction and mining industries, hurricane recovery and aboard ships and boats, will invest more than \$4.6 million to move its headquarters and manufacturing facility from Chattanooga, Tennessee to the Town of Hillsville in Carroll County.



The company, which will assemble, ship and service water pumps throughout North America and the Western Hemisphere, will create 125 new jobs with Virginia successfully competing with Tennessee for the project.

“This is tremendous news for Hillsville and Carroll County,” said Governor Kaine. “AmeriPumps’ decision to open this facility demonstrates that the region, previously affected by economic downturn, is on the rebound. The company will find no shortage of capable employees with a strong work ethic, and I look forward to AmeriPumps’ success in Virginia.”

AmeriPumps has a strong business relationship with Sykes International, which is the largest industrial pump manufacturer in the world. Sykes has earned and maintained a reputation for building the most reliable dry priming dewatering pump for some of the most challenging applications imaginable to man. Due to this strong relationship, AmeriPumps is the sole authorized manufacturer of Sykes Pump in the Western Hemisphere, which includes Canada, the United States, Central and South America.

“We are extremely excited to establish our Corporate Headquarters and Manufacturing operations in Hillsville and we look forward to being a part of the Hillsville/Carroll County business community for many years to come,” said Doug Zukowski, President of AmeriPumps. “The decision to relocate our operations to Virginia was based on the strong work ethic and available workforce in this geographic region along with the quality of life only found in this part of Virginia. We certainly appreciate the leadership and hard work from the Virginia Economic

Development Partnership, the Carroll County Administration and the Town of Hillsville and others for assisting us in making Hillsville our new home.”

The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with the Town of Hillsville, Carroll County and Virginia’s @Corridor to secure the project for Virginia. Governor Kaine approved \$150,000 from the Governor’s Opportunity Fund to assist Carroll County with the project. The Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission approved \$100,000 in Tobacco Region Opportunity Funds for the project. The company is eligible to receive state benefits from the Virginia Enterprise Zone Program, administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The Virginia Department of Business Assistance will provide training assistance through the Virginia Jobs Investment Program.

Sam Dickson – Chairman of the Carroll County Board of Supervisors says during today’s announcement, “Today is a celebration of the work that has been completed in the past to get us to the point we are today but also a celebration of the present. Today is a “Present” to Carroll County and the Blue Ridge Crossroads Region. This is a very special announcement for many reasons.

As you know, the Economic Development strategy for the Blue Ridge Crossroads Region (Carroll/ Galax/ Grayson) has changed to include a major emphasis on Entrepreneurship and "Creating Business" rather than depending on the search for "Big Game". Now, please understand that if a large company calls, we will continue to work with them on an aggressive basis.

Using this new approach to Economic Development of working to ‘grow our own through Entrepreneurship’ has resulted in more than 300 new jobs in the region and \$12 million in Capital Investment and has started 76 businesses. Today, we are happy to say that we will be adding to these numbers significantly!

Liz Povar – Director of Business Development for the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP and supervisor of Joe Gillespie and Ralph Stephenson) recently said, ‘Beyond the results achieved, Carroll County's emphasis on an Entrepreneurial strategy as one part of a comprehensive overall economic development plan is evidence of solid local leadership with a vision. With Carroll and the Blue Ridge Crossroads implementing the vision by dedicating staff time, financial resources, and building partnerships create the opportunities for success today and in the future. This is a best practice example from which many other communities can learn.’

Today we celebrate as our friends in Chattanooga Tennessee cry! This company, until today was headquartered in Tennessee where we entered into a friendly yet aggressive plan of action to lure the company to Virginia. Tennessee is a worthy competitor as the incentive

package they offered included land and a building plus tax breaks and the like. However, a small rural community in the mountains of Virginia is telling the world that we won the battle!

We can contribute and are proud of who we are, what we do and how we do it!

The owners of this company saw the potential, have a vision and simply liked it so much, they "Bought the Company"! The definition of an Entrepreneur is one who can see an opportunity and act on it. These folks are certainly acting on a "vision and Dream"!

We are once again growing one of our own in an exciting direction that will create an amazing opportunity for Carroll and the region.

Announcement "77" is a company who will reside off of Expansion Drive inside the Town of Hillsville and Carroll County.

- * They will be the Western Hemisphere Headquarters for this particular product. Basically $\frac{1}{2}$ of the earth will depend on this operation for this particular product

- * They will employ 125 in a manufacturing operation that is mechanical in nature. All of the employees will not reside in Carroll County however, they will report to the Carroll operation

- * They will be tied to an International company who is the world leading supplier of a patented product and "our" Company will be the only licensed group in this half of the complete Earth!

- * They will sell and lease the product across the globe

- * "Our Company" is the ONLY company that has a product being carried by a particular "World Leader", construction equipment company with Instant name recognition in every country around the world. This company produces all of their own items except for this particular product.

- * There is also very good opportunity for further vertical operations as we move forward with new jobs as well as investment

As mentioned, this company will bring 125 new jobs to the area and will have an initial capital investment of more than \$4.6 Million. They will also base a corporate Aircraft at the Twin County Airport.

We are very excited to have AmeriPumps, LLC to come to Carroll County!

AmeriPumps, LLC will be producing Commercial/ Industrial pump units that will be used across the nation and around the world! We are truly ‘Blazing New Business Trails.’”

Don Branscome, one of the company owners of AmeriPumps, LLC says, “As you know, DLB has been a stable employer of Carroll County for many years. We are a construction company that builds bridges, constructs, repairs water and waste water projects and a few other things such as the development of the land at “Wildwood”, Exit 19 on I-77. We operate across the Commonwealth on a regular basis and surrounding states.

I guess you might say, I like to see things happen! I like challenges and when you mix these two, it can be a dangerous combination.

Tom Sullivan, a friend of mine and now partner approached me about an opportunity to purchase a “Pump Company”. I have known Tom for many years and he was a Commercial / Industrial Pump Salesman for another company at the time. He along with Doug Zukowski of Chattanooga shared the vision of where we could buy AmeriPumps and become a leader in the field. One of our competitors does about \$300 million in sales each year. We plan to re-allocate the business from the “big boys” as we move forward.

Sykes Pumps from England is recognized as the “best” pump head worldwide. Caterpillar is also recognized as the leading heavy construction equipment provider in the world. With AmeriPumps, we have an exclusive sales right to the Sykes pump heads and an arrangement to AmeriPumps was using the very best equipment available to produce a superior product in Chattanooga and now, here in Carroll! We will be combining the best with the best.

A patented Sykes pumps to a “Cat” Engine, it just does not get any better!

Doug, our Corporate President and Tom, Vice President of Sales could not be here today because they are out selling pumps. We have an enormous number of orders already and are finishing up our new building so we can get started almost immediately. We will be accepting applications for employment through the VA Employment Commission.

We would like to thank all of the folks who have assisted in this move. To be honest, I thought we were going to stay in TN because of the incentive package. However, Carroll County and Hillsville came through and here we are!

Gary Larowe assisted in getting all of the players lined up from the Governor to the Department of Business Assistance, the Board of Supervisors and the Industrial Development Authority, the Town of Hillsville and even making a quick trip to Chattanooga over a weekend a few weeks back. He has assisted in making the “deal” work.

We feel as if this association with Caterpillar and Sykes will allow us to be known and respected throughout the Western Hemisphere and around the world. Matter of fact, there are

147 Caterpillar Dealerships throughout the United States that will be carrying the AmeriPump line. And we are the only non-Caterpillar made product that is carried in the Caterpillar catalog.”

Caterpillar is already pushing us to supply pumps all over Latin America due to the large business opportunity. These pumps will be used for disaster recovery such as floods, construction of bridges, water line repairs, and sewage pump-arounds. These can even be used in mining operations and irrigation. If there is a liquid to be pumped on a commercial scale, we will be able to assist if it is a direct drive unit or a hydraulic unit. We have units from 4 inch portable to over 1000 Horse Power skids! In other words, this is BIG!”

Last, Dickson says, “It is always nice to hitch your wagon to a winner and last week, Caterpillar announced their highest profits and growth in the past 80 years! They also experienced a 30% growth in sales outside of the United States. Much of this is due to the weak dollar, however, this tied to the world economy and the need for construction projects plus having the “best” product, we feel as if AmeriPumps will prosper! And in turn we will prosper as a community.”

Dickson continues by thanking the Town of Hillsville for the \$50,000 incentive, along with thanking the Tobacco Commission for their \$100,000 contribution and also the \$150,000 from the Governor’s Opportunity Fund.

“Much work must be accomplished to see the amazing influence this company will have on Carroll County and the region,” Dickson says. “These 125 jobs will come and they will not be a broken promise as we have experienced in the past. As I said earlier, it is always nice to hitch your wagon to a winning Horse. Today, Carroll County is firmly hitched to an up and coming world leader!”

Del. Bill Carrico was in attendance for today’s announcement. “AmeriPumps, LLC is a state of the art company that Carroll County citizens will be blessed to have for job opportunities, Carrico said. “I’m really excited for them to establish in Carroll and there has been a lot of work involved in making this happen. This will be a huge benefit for our region.”

County Administrator Gary Larowe says, “AmeriPumps is a world-class operation that will be operating from the world-class community of Carroll County. It is not everyday that a Western Hemisphere Headquarters lands in Southwest Virginia and Carroll County in particular. We are exceptionally excited to have a long close connection to AmeriPumps and her allies, Caterpillar and Sykes Pumps.”

For more information on Ameripumps, LLC, please visit the company’s website at www.ameripumps.com.