



MEDIA RELEASE

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Flexaust selects Burlington for new Manufacturing Site

Project to add jobs, investment to City's diversifying industrial base

BURLINGTON, NC – Flexaust, a manufacturer of lightweight, flexible ducting and hoses for industrial applications, will establish a new Southeast US manufacturing and distribution site in Burlington. The new plant will bring 47 new jobs to the City over the next five years, paying an average salary of \$48,723.

Flexaust will renovate and lease 57,000 square feet in a vacant textile mill property at 1902 Tucker Street, investing over \$500,000 in building improvements and \$3.7 million in new machinery and equipment.

The Burlington facility will add needed capacity, while its location provides service and product access to a significant percentage of Flexaust's customer base, said Mike Harvey, Vice President and General Manager for Flexaust.

"Flexaust is excited about opening a factory in Burlington. As we searched for a location in the southeast it became clear that Alamance County and specifically the City of Burlington was the perfect fit for our company to expand. All of the folks from the state, county and city economic development have been great to work with in this process," Harvey added.

The City of Burlington, Alamance Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina partnered to locate this new plant and identify almost \$300,000 in State resources to assist Flexaust with this new investment.

"We're pleased Flexaust chose Burlington for their new investment. Our city is a great fit for mid-sized companies looking for a 'forever home': Burlington is a willing and creative project partner supporting a great quality of life in a strategic, growing location," said Peter Bishop, Burlington's Director of Economic Development.

Alamance Chamber President Mac Williams shared these sentiments, adding “The Alamance Chamber welcomes Flexaust to Burlington and Alamance County. Our location, workforce, and community make this a desirable location for manufacturing and Flexaust is a great fit for our market.”

This project was made possible in part by a Building Reuse Grant awarded to the City of Burlington in the amount of \$240,000 from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Economic Development Division, and a \$56,400 customized training grant from the North Carolina Community College System.

The Building Reuse Program provides grants to local governments to renovate vacant buildings that will lead to the creation of new jobs in rural areas throughout the state. Funding will be granted to the company as a reimbursement, upon the completion of eligible rehabilitation work and meeting job creation goals. The City of Burlington is providing a 5% local match (\$12,000) of the Building Reuse grant.

The Customized Training Program provides education, training and support services for new, expanding and existing business and industry in North Carolina through our network of 58 community colleges. Flexaust will use these funds to train new employees in partnership with Alamance Community College.

Construction on renovations to 1902 Tucker Street are expected to begin immediately, with recruitment for positions to follow. Flexaust plans to begin operations at their Burlington location in early 2020.

Media inquiries can be directed to Burlington Economic Development Director Peter Bishop at pbishop@BurlingtonNC.gov or at (336) 222-5147; or Alamance Chamber President Mac Williams at mac@alamancechamber.com or (336) 228-1338

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