



Texas Encore Materials, Inc. Comes to Belmont

The Gaston County Economic Development Commission Announces 100 New Jobs and \$2.5 Million Investment.

Belmont, NC - Texas Encore Materials (TEM) of Romulus, Michigan will locate an operation in Gaston County, creating more than 100 jobs over a 3-year period with an average salary of \$16 per hour. Investment over the 3-year period is estimated at \$2.5 million.

TEM will move into The Southside Companies' 74,840 sf facility at 1401 Catawba Street. They plan to be fully operational in April 2004. The building was formerly part of Beltex Corporation and closed in 1999.

For more than 11 years, TEM has been researching and developing a process that incorporates recycled tire crumb into new manufactured products. The North Carolina facility will manufacture extruded sheets made from recycled rubber and plastic resins. Finished sheets will be used for automotive parts, consumer products, roofing materials, and industrial components.



"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the State of North Carolina, and to commend the Department of Commerce, NCDENR, Gaston County EDC, Duke Power, and The Southside Companies for their roles in making this move possible," said Dr. Philip Friedman, CEO of Texas Encore Materials. "The professionalism we encountered in North Carolina has streamlined our decision process and made our transition seamless. Texas Encore Materials is looking forward to occupying our new facility, producing quality products from recycled materials, and providing good job and business opportunities to the community."

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