



GASTON
COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



The Ideal Location For Your Business In The Charlotte Region

July 1, 2008

Project Announcement

Röchling Expands to Gastonia Technology Park

The Gaston County Economic Development Commission is Pleased to Announce:

Gastonia, N.C. — Röchling Engineered Plastics plans to centralize and consolidate its business by integrating Röchling Sustaplast into its Gastonia, North Carolina operations. The company is expanding its production and shipping capacity with the purchase of an additional building located in the Gastonia Technology Park.

Röchling Engineered Plastics will invest \$8 million in expanding their operations to a building formerly occupied by Ortronics. This facility is 165,000 square feet in size and located in the Gastonia Technology Park. The new location will benefit from being in a Prime Power Park, as designated by Electricities, with back up electrical generation provided to tenants within the Gastonia Technology Park.

"Röchling Engineered Plastics is a great corporate citizen of Gastonia and Gaston County. We are thrilled Röchling has chosen to expand operations in Gastonia," stated Jennifer Stultz, Mayor of the City of Gastonia. She added, "This expansion will continue to strengthen our local economy and provide quality jobs desired by our community. We are committed to continuing our relationship with Röchling Engineered Plastics as they grow and we pledge to maintain the best environment for business."

Mickey Price, Chairman of the Gaston County Board of Commissioners stated, "The County Commissioners are extremely excited by the growth of our existing industry. Röchling Engineered Plastics is a wonderful company and we offer our continued support to Mr. Lewis Carter and his staff. Our thanks also go to the EDC for their existing industry program which was involved in this project."

"This will be a major stepping-stone for Röchling in its quest to become the leading manufacturer of high performance plastics in the US." Lewis H. Carter said, President of Röchling Engineered Plastics, Gastonia, NC.

On October 1 Röchling Engineered Plastics and Röchling Sustaplast will produce and ship as a combined force from this new location in addition to its various production facilities, warehouses and sales offices strategically located throughout the US and Canada.

Röchling strongly believes that "synergies such as cost reduction thru economies of scale, cross-selling and similar value creation potential will make the consolidation an immense opportunity to grow our business even further. In addition it will help us to implement a new marketing strategy, promoting Röchling as a strong and innovative brand within the plastics market."

The integration of Röchling Engineered Plastics and Röchling Sustaplast will open up many new opportunities not only for Röchling itself, but also for its customers. The transition will enable Röchling's customers to do one-stop-shopping by taking advantage of the expanded product line. Additionally the merger will simplify and streamline the purchase process and help customers to efficiently choose the right products for their individual needs.

The globally operating Röchling Group achieved annual sales exceeding 1 billion Euro in 2007. It is one of the world's leading suppliers of semi-finished and finished products made of engineering plastics for the material handling industry/conveyor components, the food processing industry, the chemical industry and applications catering to the automotive industry.

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