

# Black Water Barrels Holds Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for New Manufacturing Facility in Bamberg, SC

#### **September 22, 2016**

<u>Black Water Barrels LLC</u> held a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 21, 2016, for its new manufacturing facility in Bamberg, SC, where they will manufacture white oak barrels for the growing bourbon industry.

The company has invested \$3.6 million and will create 57 jobs over the next five years.

Governor Nikki Haley, officials from Southern Carolina Alliance, and community leaders joined company officials for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the manufacturing facility.

Black Water Barrels announced its decision to locate in Bamberg in January of 2016 and has been up fitting the former Zeigler automotive facility located at 3941 Main Highway. The company purchased the 9,000 square-foot facility and has added an additional 11,000 square-foot expansion to the building.

State-of-the-art equipment from Germany and Scotland has been installed; all equipment will be installed by September 28.

"There are very few places you can go in the United States and see an actual barrel being made in the old style cooperage form, and you will now be able to do that here," said Greg Pierce, President of Black Water Barrels. "We are excited to bring this unique product to the state of South Carolina and to this region. The people of Bamberg have welcomed us with open arms and we look forward to being part of this community."



A startup firm, Black Water Barrels is South Carolina's first cooperage, and will specialize in the manufacture of 53-gallon barrels made of FAS-grade, quarter-sawn American White Oak for use in the bourbon industry. The company will also have the full capacity to produce additional size barrels, including but not limited to 60-gallon and 30-gallon. In addition, other wood profiles will be available to serve the spirits, beer and wine industries.

"We are always excited for days like today, to celebrate the opening of a new manufacturing facility in our region," said Danny Black, President and CEO of Southern Carolina Alliance. "Not only is Black Water Barrels creating 57 new jobs, the company will manufacture a unique product here in the Southern Carolina region of the state and the economic stimulation it provides to Bamberg and the surrounding area is great for our communities and our citizens. We welcome Greg and his staff and look forward to many years of partnership and growth."

Governor Nikki Haley was the keynote speaker at the ceremony and was joined by Mr. Danny Black, President and CEO of Southern Carolina Alliance, Mr. Greg Pierce, President of Black Water Barrels, The Honorable Kathy Schwarting, Mayor Pro Tem and Councilwoman of the City of Bamberg, The Honorable Evert Comer Jr, Bamberg County Councilman, and The Honorable Justin Bamberg, Representative for the South Carolina House District 90.

"Greg looked at eight counties and three states and he ended up in the best spot, which is Bamberg County," said Governor Nikki Haley during the ceremony. "We want this to be a destination site, a place where people travel. South Carolina is now on the map for having another cool industry."

The company gratefully acknowledges the collaborative efforts of South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, the Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance and various Bamberg County governmental agencies.

Black Water Barrels is expected to be fully operational by the end of the year. To make order inquiries or obtain additional information on the company, contact<u>info@blackwaterbarrels.com</u>. Further information is available at <a href="https://www.blackwaterbarrels.com">www.blackwaterbarrels.com</a>.



## **Black Water Barrels LLC Establishing Operations in Bamberg County**

Startup investing \$3.6 million to establish facility in Bamberg, S.C.

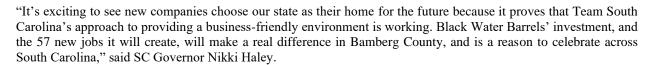
#### January 06, 2016

Black Water Barrels LLC, a new cooperage, will establish manufacturing operations in Bamberg County. The company is investing \$3.6 million in the former Zeigler automotive facility and creating 57 new jobs over the next five years to produce white oak barrels for the growing bourbon industry.

"We are very excited for the opportunity to build our barrel manufacturing company in Bamberg County, S.C. During the process of visiting several

states and counties, the people of Bamberg welcomed us with open arms," said Greg Pierce, President of Black Water Barrels, LLC. "We look forward to being part of such a great community and working with the county and state to become South Carolina's only cooperage."

BARRELS



"Not only will Blackwater Barrels create 57 new jobs, the company will manufacture a unique product here in the Southern Carolina region of the state. We are excited about the diversity this manufacturing operation will bring to our forest products sector, as well as the economic stimulation it provides to Bamberg and the surrounding counties. We are proud that Blackwater Barrels chose to call Bamberg 'home' for their production facility," added Southern Carolina Alliance Chairman Buddy Phillips.

A startup firm, Black Water Barrels LLC will specialize in the manufacture of 53-gallon barrels made of FAS-grade, quarter-sawn American White Oak for use in the bourbon industry. Black Water Barrels LLC has full capacity to produce additional size barrels, including but not limited to 60-gallon and 30-gallon. In addition, other wood profiles will be available to serve the spirits, beer and wine industries.

"Entrepreneurial activity and the success of new businesses is critical to South Carolina's economy. I offer my congratulations to Black Water Barrels on this remarkable achievement and look forward to supporting them as they grow and prosper in our state," said Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt.

According to Bamberg County Council Chairman Joe Guess, "Blackwater Barrels will be a welcome addition to our manufacturing community and another great wood products industry in Bamberg County. On behalf of Bamberg County Council and our citizens, we would like to thank Blackwater Barrels for investing in our people."

To house its operations, the company is purchasing the 9,000 SF location of the former Zeigler auto dealership, located at 3941 Main Highway in Bamberg, SC, with plans for a 12,000 square-foot expansion to the building.

"The people of Bamberg appreciate the jobs that Blackwater Barrels will create, and we appreciate the support we have received from Governor Haley, the S.C. Department of Commerce, Southern Carolina Alliance and our county council in helping this new company locate here," said Bamberg County Economic Development Commission Chairwoman Clara Thomas. "We look forward to working with the Blackwater Barrels manufacturing team."

Expected to be fully operational late in the second quarter of 2016, Black Water Barrels LLC anticipates hiring to begin in April 2016. To make order inquiries or obtain additional information on the company, contact info@blackwaterbarrels.com



## **Masonite International expanding Bamberg County operations**

Company expanding operations with additional workforce

June 09, 2016



#### COLUMBIA, S.C. - Masonite International, one of the world's

leading manufacturers of decorative interior doors and entry door systems, is expanding its existing Bamberg County operations. This expansion will result in the creation of 50 new jobs over the next year, with additional growth expected in the years to come.

Featuring a wide array of patented designs for frames, stain kits and building materials, Masonite International operates more than 70 locations around the world--with 37 sites in the United States alone. Headquartered in Tampa, Fla., the company employs more than 10,000 people worldwide.

The 50 new positions will allow Masonite's Denmark, S.C. facility to add another auto line shift. Additional growth and capacity increases are expected to take place through the first quarter of 2017. There are also plans for the creation of a weekend shift, which will require additional staffing in auxiliary support departments.

If you are interested in applying for any of the new positions, visit the <u>company's careers page</u> online for more information. Applications must be submitted in person at the facility, which is located at 1349 Locust Avenue in Denmark.

For more information on Masonite International, visit www.masonite.com.

#### **QUOTES**

"South Carolina continues to build on its reputation as a leader in manufacturing, and Masonite's decision to expand in Denmark is another big win for our state. It's special any time we see a company succeed and grow in one of our rural communities, and we couldn't be more excited to celebrate the 50 new jobs this expansion means for Bamberg County." –Gov. Nikki Haley

"The success that we've seen in economic development in South Carolina is due to great companies like Masonite International, which continue to invest in our communities and people. We look forward to watching this company continue to grow and support the Bamberg community." **–Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt** 

"Masonite is a fine company that has been an asset to our county. Every good job they provide in our area creates a better future for a family here, where Masonite continues to expand. We congratulate the company and want to help Masonite flourish in Bamberg County." – **Bamberg County Council Chairman Isaiah Odom** 

"We appreciate Masonite's continued investment in our region, where they already employ nearly 200 people. We are proud of the fact that our workforce has been a part of Masonite's success at the Denmark facility, where Masonite continues to produce the world's finest products in the industry. We extend our gratitude and our pledge to continue to support Masonite's success in any way that we can." —Southern Carolina Alliance President and CEO Danny Black

#### FIVE FAST FACTS

- Masonite International is expanding its existing operations in Bamberg County.
- The expansion will result in the creation of **50 new jobs.**
- Masonite is one of the world's leading manufacturers of decorative interior doors and entry door systems.
- The company is located at 1349 Locust Avenue in Denmark, S.C.
- For information on applying for the new positions, visit the company's careers page online.



# **Rockland Industries Announces Expansion of Bamberg Facility**

#### **September 05, 2017**

Rockland Industries is announcing a major expansion of its manufacturing capabilities in its Bamberg, South Carolina facility with the addition of a third fabric coating range, which will create 15 new jobs. The first of a series of manufacturing equipment additions totaling \$10 million in new capital investment, Rockland anticipates completing the new coating range in the last quarter of 2017.

"We are pleased with our success here in Bamberg County, where we manufacture and ship drapery products to 140 countries around the world," said President Mark Berman. "This expansion will bring new jobs and more opportunity to those who want to join a growing company with room for career advancement."



Currently employing 170 at their Bamberg, South Carolina location, Rockland is the world's largest producer of coated blackout window covering fabrics, including decorative blackout drapery fabrics and blackout drapery lining fabrics. These fabrics are used in hotels and motels around the world. Rockland makes these specialty technical textiles in the U.S. and sells them in the U.S. and in more than 140 foreign countries. Rockland has received both the President's E and E-Star Awards for excellence in exporting.

"We appreciate Rockland's long history of investing in our community and our people," said Bamberg County Council Chairman Evert Comer.

According to Nancy Foster, Mayor of Bamberg, Rockland Industries has been a major employer in the area for decades.

"Rockland continues to be an asset to our industrial community," said Foster. "The company helps stimulate our economy by providing jobs, generating tax revenue and providing opportunities for retail businesses in Bamberg."

"Every job created by Rockland creates a brighter future for a family in our region," said SouthernCarolina Alliance Chairman Buddy Phillips. "We congratulate the Rockland team on their success."

Rockland invented coated blackout fabrics in the mid-1960's specifically for use by the hospitality industry in hotels and motels. More recently these fabrics are being used in homes, as a solution to eliminating sun glare on home theater and computer screens and as studies have shown that sleeping in totally dark rooms promotes good health.

In addition to coated blackout fabrics, Rockland manufactures a wide variety of drapery lining fabrics primarily for home use and window roller shade fabrics and is the leading supplier in the U.S. of the muslin category of home sewing and craft fabrics. Consumers can buy Rockland products at Walmart, Joann Fabrics, Hobby Lobby, in their retail stores and on-line and at Amazon.com and Fabrics.com, as well as many other dot-coms.

Rockland's manufacturing runs around the clock. As a result of the expansion, Rockland has job openings for machine operators, warehousemen, fork lift operators, mechanics and electricians, on all shifts. Rockland will provide training for production operators.

Rockland Industries has immediate job openings. To apply, job candidates should contact Karon Boatwright at: kboatwright@ROC-LON.com.



## Southern Current Invests \$8.4 Million in Bamberg County

December 20, 2018

Southern Current Launching New Solar Project in Bamberg County

Bamberg, SC-- Southern Current, a leading developer in the residential, commercial and utility-scale solar markets, is launching a new solar farm in Bamberg County. The company is investing \$8.4 million in the project.



According to Paul Fleury, Chief Development Office for Southern Current, "When communities invite renewable energy providers to partner with them, it's a win-win for everyone. This \$8.4 million investment in Bamberg County will bring so much more than 6MW of power; it will power growth and sustainability for years to come."

Regional and local leaders also expressed the importance of the company's solar project in the area.

"Bamberg County and SouthernCarolina Alliance welcome the investment by Southern Current, and we work together as a team to create a pro-business environment for companies to invest in our area," said Bamberg County Council Chairman Clint Carter. "We support cutting edge technology and alternative energy projects like solar, as well as the traditional manufacturing and agribusiness projects, which are the backbone of our community."

SouthernCarolina Alliance Chairman Marty Sauls added, "We welcome solar energy projects that will benefit our residential and industrial communities, and we look forward to working with Southern Current in the years to come."

The solar project will be developed just off Heritage Highway near Denmark, South Carolina.

Southern Current is an owner and developer of utility-scale solar energy facilities across the southeastern United States. With an in-house team of development professionals, the company manages projects from site selection and origination through construction and operation.

For more information on Southern Current, visit the company's website at www.southerncurrentllc.com.

For more information on SouthernCarolina Alliance and Bamberg County, visit the website: www.SouthernCarolina.org.



# **Pegasus Home Fashions Chooses Bamberg County for Manufacturing Operation**

November 12, 2019

Pegasus Home Fashions Establishing Operations in Bamberg County Investment to create 113 new jobs

DENMARK, S.C. – Pegasus Home Fashions, a manufacturer and provider of bedding and home products, today announced plans to establish operations in Bamberg County. The \$1.1 million investment is projected to create 113 new jobs.

"We are very excited to expand our business to Denmark and bring jobs to the Bamberg area, where we look forward to hiring more than a hundred people. We appreciate the support we have received from the SC Department of Commerce, SouthernCarolina Alliance and the local community, which have all created a pro-business environment," said Pegasus Home Fashions Owner Carmine Spinella.

Family-owned and-operated, Pegasus Home Fashions uses the latest materials and techniques to produce and distribute bed pillows, memory foam, bedspreads, blankets, sheet sets, pet beds and more.

Located at 1349 Locust Avenue in Denmark, S.C., Pegasus Home Fashions' Bamberg County facility is the company's first manufacturing and distribution operations in the Southeast.

"When a company decides to move here, it confirms that Team South Carolina's approach to attracting businesses and building a world-class workforce is working. We're excited to welcome Pegasus Home Fashions to the South Carolina family and to celebrate the 113 new jobs this investment will bring to Bamberg County," said Gov. Henry McMaster.

"Companies come to our state and invest in our people because of all South Carolina has to offer, and we're excited to see what the future holds for Pegasus Home Fashions in Bamberg County," added Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt.

"Pegasus Home Fashions will bring investment and jobs to Bamberg County, and we are delighted that we have the workforce that can support manufacturing operations as diverse as this textile operation, aerospace, advanced composites and agribusiness. It's a great day for Bamberg County to welcome this fine company," said Bamberg County Councilman Evert Comer, who represents the area where the Pegasus facility is located.

Mayor Gerald Wright of Denmark hailed the new company, saying, "Denmark welcomes this new industry, and we look forward to creating the best business environment for their manufacturing. The people of our town thank Mr. Spinella and Pegasus for the 113 new jobs and economic stimulation in our community."

"SouthernCarolina Alliance and Bamberg County salute Carmine Spinella and his team on choosing their new location, where manufacturing is appreciated and thrives. Pegasus Home Fashions will be an asset to our regional industrial community, and we look forward to working with them for years to come," added SouthernCarolina Alliance President and CEO Danny Black.

SC Representative Justin Bamberg remarked, "We are grateful to Pegasus Home Fashions for their investment in our community and our people. Each of the 113 jobs created will provide a better future for a family in our area, where we are proud of our workforce and history in manufacturing. This big win is a result of teamwork from our county leaders, SouthernCarolina Alliance and the state. I think Pegasus will be very happy with their new home."

Operations are already online. Individuals interested in joining the Pegasus Home Fashions team should visit the facility to apply in person.



## **Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing Grows Operations in Bamberg County**

December 19, 2019

# **Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing Announces Growth in 2019**

BAMBERG, S.C. – Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing, the leading supplier of custom specialty parts to America's Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), announced today that the company has added 16 permanent jobs and invested over \$600,000 at their manufacturing facility in Bamberg, South Carolina.

"We are pleased to share that 2019 was a year of growth for our company. As we continued to meet our customers' needs and exceed their expectations, we invested in equipment and created new jobs to ensure that Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing will meet the demands of our growing business in 2020," said Russell Hurst, Chief Executive Officer of the company.

"Our customers value Phoenix's commitment to quality, service and reliability," he added. "Our employees helped build that reputation, so our company continues to invest in our employees and grow our workforce. It's one of the reasons that many of our employees have been with the company for decades, while the average tenure of our employees is 15 years."

Family owned and operated, Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing was founded in 1907 and manufactures thousands of custom parts for the aerospace, automotive, agribusiness, electrical, electronic, medical, energy and machinery and processing equipment sectors, among other industry sectors.

"This is great news for Bamberg County. On behalf of Bamberg County Council, I congratulate Phoenix Specialty for their continued success and growth in Bamberg County. Phoenix has been an important employer in Bamberg County for over 50 years and Bamberg County Council appreciates their continued commitment to our county," said Bamberg County Council Chairman Trent Kinard. "Bamberg County, along with SouthernCarolina Alliance, is always working hard to encourage expansions of existing businesses and recruiting new industry. I pray that 2020 will be an even better year as SouthernCarolina Alliance and Bamberg County continue to search for new industries to call Bamberg County home."

SouthernCarolina Alliance President Danny Black added, "Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing is a company known for their commitment to excellence, and we are proud that Bamberg County has the workforce to meet the high standards required by the aerospace, automotive and advanced manufacturing industries that Phoenix supplies. We appreciate their continued investment in our communities. Every job that Phoenix creates will create a better future for a family in our region."

According to Hurst, the company is poised for growth in the New Year and anticipates new jobs and investment in 2020 as well.

For more information on Phoenix Specialty Manufacturing, please visit the website: www.phoenixspecialty.com.



## **Innovative Poultry Products to Expand in Bamberg County**

#### November 26, 2019

Innovative Poultry Products, LLC Expanding Operations in Bamberg County Investment will create 10 new jobs

OLAR, S.C. – Innovative Poultry Products, LLC, a manufacturer and distributor of equipment that assists poultry farmers, today announced plans to expand the company's current operations in Bamberg County. The \$505,000 investment is expected to create 10 new jobs.

"We are excited at Innovative Poultry Products for the opportunity we have to grow by bringing manufacturing inhouse," said Chad Brubaker, President of Innovative Poultry Products, LLC. "We are grateful for assistance from SouthernCarolina Alliance, the South Carolina Department of Commerce and Bamberg County and that they see potential in our business and are helpful in supporting our decision to expand."

"Across South Carolina, all types of businesses are flourishing, and today's announcement by Innovative Poultry Products, LLC is a testament to that. We congratulate this local company on their success and look forward to watching them continue to grow in South Carolina for years to come," said S.C. Governor Henry McMaster.

"South Carolina has displayed its ability to be a place where companies of all types can thrive, and today's announcement is proof of that. I congratulate Innovative Poultry Products, LLC on this great accomplishment, and I look forward to seeing the difference this new investment makes in the community," added Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt.

Founded in 2015, Innovative Poultry Products, LLC provides poultry farmers with quality products aimed at making work more efficient.

Located at 2192 Juniper Creek Road in Olar, S.C., Innovative Poultry Products, LLC's expansion will allow the company to bring previously outsourced production in-house, increase space for new equipment and more.

"We appreciate the investment by Innovative Poultry Products and the jobs that their expansion will bring. We are proud of the agribusinesses that support our community, and we will support them," said Mayor Walter O'Rear of Olar.

Bamberg County Councilman Clint Carter, who represents the district, remarked, "Bamberg County celebrates the success of Chad Brubaker and Innovative Poultry Products, and we will work with them to ensure that he has the best possible conditions to grow his business."

"Every job generated by this innovative company provides an opportunity for a family in Bamberg County. Entrepreneurs like Chad Brubaker investing in our region help in creating a promising future for our region and our state," said SouthernCarolina Alliance President and CEO Danny Black.

"We appreciate Chad Brubaker's investment and ingenuity in creating jobs in our community, and we thank those who helped make his efforts a reality. Good jobs are the backbone of our local economy," said Bamberg County Council Chairman Trent Kinard."

The expansion is expected to be completed by May of 2020. Individuals interested in joining the Innovative Poultry Products, LLC team should email info@innovativepoultryproducts.com or call 803-571-3345. ###

# **Upgrades to Building, Shopping Center Near Completion in Time for Feb. 19 Piggly Wiggly Opening**

January 09, 2020

**Upgrades to Building, Shopping Center Near Completion in Time for Feb. 19 Piggly Wiggly Opening** 

BAMBERG, SC – Piggly Wiggly is well on track to open Feb. 19 with "the fast, friendly service you expect from us," said Charles "Chuck" Fogle, vice president of Fogle's Inc.

Fogle announced in October that Piggly Wiggly would open in the Heritage Shopping Center, 3386 Railroad Ave. Fogle's Inc. owns several Piggly Wiggly stores in the area, including one in Denmark, two in Orangeburg, one in Columbia and one in Neeses.

The space, most recently a Bi-Lo that closed in 2018, had to be remodeled. Fogle said it needed a new floor, ceiling, lights and equipment. He also is installing in state-of-the-art, energy-efficient equipment.

"Even the freezers are computer-controlled," he said at the store, showing rows of new freezers in the process of being installed.

A late December hiring event received a "very good response," Fogle said. "We are going to have a lot of great employees with smiling faces." The store will employ 60-70 people.

"We are excited to be in Bamberg," Fogle said. "It's home to us, and we are looking forward to a long-term relationship with the people of Bamberg County."

Joe Pinto, the facility manager, said he helped build the original Piggly Wiggly in that location more than 20 years ago, "and I'm fortunate to be able to help the Fogle family build this one. The Fogles made a commitment and an investment in Bamberg County. It's just the right thing to do."

"I can tell you this place has never looked this good," Pinto said. "Not even when it was built the first time."

Piggly Wiggly is just one tenant of the Heritage Shopping Center, which includes Family Dollar, World Finance, a beauty supply store and a Chinese restaurant. The entire shopping center is getting a makeover, thanks to new owners, The Vireo Group, a regional retail investment and development company based in Augusta.

Vireo's director of leasing, Todd Wilson, said the renovations are going well.

"We are in the process of cleaning the retention pond, fixing and painting the facades of the buildings, remodeling the signage, putting new lights in the parking lot and resealing and restriping the parking lot," he said.

An outparcel has been cleared next to the Burger King, and Vireo Group will develop that and seek a tenant, Wilson said. All renovations will be complete by the time Piggly Wiggly opens.

The Vireo Group partnered with the SouthernCarolina Regional Development Alliance and Bamberg City and County officials to help finalize the deal.

# Phoenix plans to add 35 jobs; manufacturer investing \$5.5M in Bamberg plant

Aug 11, 2020

A small selection of the many washers and specialty parts made by Phoenix Specialty. By Lee Harter



Phoenix Specialty Mfg. Co. announced Tuesday that it's expanding its Bamberg County operations.

The company is planning to invest more than \$5.5 million and create 35 new jobs over the next three years.

"The company and owners are committed to this expansion here in Bamberg," Phoenix Chief Executive Officer Russell Hurst said in a press release.

"With the disruptions related to COVID-19, especially within the aerospace industry, 2020 is going to be a challenging year for us and many others. But we are confident that we will come out of this difficult time as a stronger company and poised for significant growth in the coming years," he said.

Founded in 1907, Phoenix Specialty supplies washers, shims, precision stampings and other specialty products to original equipment manufacturers throughout the United States. The company serves a variety of industries, including aerospace, agriculture, automotive, energy and more.

Located at 7433 Main Highway in Bamberg, Phoenix Specialty's expansion will enable the company to increase capacity to meet growing demand.

Bamberg County Council Chairwoman Sharon Hammond said, "We salute Phoenix Specialty Mfg. Co. for their continued investment in the people of Bamberg County.

"Each of the 35 jobs created provides another opportunity for a better future for a family in our region, and that's good economic development. Bamberg County Council will continue to work to provide the best business environment for companies that create jobs like Phoenix Specialty continues to do."

Gov. Henry McMaster said, "It's always a special day when an existing company like Phoenix Specialty Mfg. Co. makes the decision to expand operations within our borders. This investment and the 35 new jobs it will create is a real reason to celebrate, and we look forward to supporting this great company as they continue to succeed and grow in South Carolina."

The expansion is expected to be completed by 2022.

Individuals interested in joining the Phoenix Specialty team should visit <a href="https://www.phoenixspecialty.com/contact-us">https://www.phoenixspecialty.com/contact-us</a>.

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development has approved job development credits related to this project.