

Kemmerich USA L.P. Breaks Ground in Auburn

Auburn, Ala. - Governor Robert Bentley, Auburn Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. and the Kemmerich Group are proud to announce the location of Kemmerich USA L.P. in Auburn, Alabama. Kemmerich broke ground on a new 60,000 square foot facility on Wednesday, February 5th in Auburn Technology Park West. Governor Bentley and Mayor Ham attended the groundbreaking.

"Automotive manufacturing is one of the targeted sectors for growth in Accelerate Alabama, and Kemmerich's announcement today is proof that the industry is continuing to grow," Governor Robert Bentley said. "The jobs at Kemmerich will provide a good opportunity for the people in Lee County, and I appreciate the company's commitment to Alabama."

Kemmerich plans to invest approximately \$16 million in the new facility, which could provide up to 160 jobs locally within the next five years. The Auburn location is an important milestone in a globalization strategy for Kemmerich, which already employs over 1,000 people in Europe. Kemmerich underwent an intensive site selection process, considering several states in the southeast before selecting Auburn, Alabama for their new US headquarters and manufacturing facility.

"We now understand when people told us that Alabama makes a difference," said Thomas Bergen, CEO of Gebrueder Kemmerich GmbH, thanking the economic development teams of both the State of Alabama and the City of Auburn for their support. "All of us at Kemmerich are looking forward to becoming a part of the Auburn family."

Kemmerich USA LP is a part of the Kemmerich Group, home to the Sauerland region of Germany. Founded in 1897, Kemmerich has a long tradition of metal work and has been an automotive supplier since the 1960s. Today, Kemmerich is a first-tier supplier to the automotive industry. The Auburn plant joins a corporate family that has manufacturing operations in Germany, Spain and the Czech Republic.

The Auburn plant will expand the international network of Kemmerich facilities allowing the company to better serve its customers including BMW, Ford, GM, Mercedes and Volkswagen. The Kemmerich Group is owned by two brothers, Josef and Christoph Kemmerich, the fourth generation to lead the family business. The plant in Auburn is scheduled to start operating in August.

"Kemmerich's announcement today confirms that they have discovered what I've known for years - Auburn is a special place," said Alabama House Speaker Hubbard, Representative for House District 79 in Auburn. "With a tremendous workforce, strong business community, and a prestigious university in our backyard, Auburn provides everything a business desires in a location. I'm proud of the work being done on every level of government from state, to county, to city, to ensure that Alabama and Auburn continue to be as business-friendly as possible. I'm proud to welcome Kemmerich to the Auburn family."

Mayor Bill Ham Jr. commented: "We're proud to welcome Kemmerich to the plains, and I'm confident that their trust and investment in our community will be a win for both Kemmerich and Auburn. I look forward to getting to know our newest corporate citizen and to seeing the fruits of this new partnership in our community as more jobs come to Auburn. My special thanks to Governor Bentley, Speaker Hubbard and Greg Canfield in the Alabama Department of Commerce, as well as to the City of Auburn's Economic Development team for their roles in making this possible."

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