

Towering Project in Newton brings 140 jobs

Trinity Structural Towers, Inc., (TSTI) has announced plans to build a world-class wind turbine production facility in Newton, creating 140 high-quality, green-collar jobs. Trinity will invest \$21 million to convert an existing 300,000 square foot building for wind tower manufacturing. Production could start as early as next year.



"My goal is to take full advantage of Iowa's natural resources, along with our incredible manufacturing base and workforce, to make Iowa the renewable

energy capital of the nation," said Governor Chet Culver. "This announcement in Newton is proof that Iowa's leadership in wind energy continues to grow, Iowa's economy is strong and our brightest days are ahead."

"We're very excited about Trinity's expansion in Newton," said Newton Mayor Chaz Allen. "These 140 jobs will certainly energize our strong and resilient local economy."

"These are exciting times in the wind industry and we are very pleased to expand our operations in Newton," said Mark W. Stiles, Trinity Industries senior vice president.

"The wind energy market is core to our company's growth strategy. Our new location in Iowa puts our company in the

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Groundbreaking for Aviva USA headquarters

Aviva USA, part of British insurer Aviva plc, has broken ground for the company's new U.S. operations headquarters in West Des Moines. Governor Chet Culver took part in the ceremonies on the site where a 360,000 square foot building will be erected.

"Building our new U.S. operations headquarters in West Des Moines demonstrates Aviva's commitment to building bright futures in Greater Des Moines and the state of Iowa," said Aviva USA Chief Executive Tom Godlasky. "Bringing Aviva USA employees together at one location will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations to benefit customers, employees and the community."

"This is great news for Iowa," said Governor Chet Culver. "Aviva's new operations headquarters will create hundreds of new high-quality, high-salary jobs in our state. Iowa is now home to many insurance and financial giants and is widely known as a major center for the insurance and financial services industries."

"The City of West Des Moines is a great place to do business," said West Des Moines Mayor Steve Gaer. "We are pleased to see Aviva USA begin construction today on their U.S. operations headquarters and look forward to creating new opportunities together, encouraging more of the best and brightest to live and work in West Des Moines."

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Aviva USA's new operations headquarters in West Des Moines will be a high performance building designed for energy efficiency and water savings, complying with the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System.



Oelwein to manufacture wind power components

Sector 5 Technologies, Inc., is purchasing the former Donaldson plant from the city of Oelwein to serve as its headquarters and manufacturing site for large, complex components used by the wind power industry. Dale Feauto, former president of Modern Engineering & Piping, is starting the company and scaling up fabrication and assembly of wind turbine components for Clipper, Acciona and other wind power companies. The nearly \$3 million investment is expected to create about 100 jobs. The Iowa Economic Development Board awarded the new company \$297,000 from Community Economic Betterment Account (CEBA) to begin operations in the 161,000 square foot building. Enterprise Zone tax benefits were also approved. Sector 5 is planning future diversification into components for the biofuels, food and pharmaceutical industries.

DANISH INVESTMENT IN CEDAR RAPIDS

Hamlet Protein, a Danish bioprocessing company, is planning to build a 30,000 square foot plant and warehouse in Cedar Rapids to produce animal nutrition products. The Economic Development Board awarded the project \$75,000 from the Value-Added Agricultural Products and Processes Financial Assistance Program (VAAPFAP) to leverage the \$17 million capital investment. Hamlet is expected to create 29 jobs. Enterprise Zone tax benefits were also approved. Construction will begin later this year with the plant becoming operational in 2009. Hamlet's products will be exported to Central and South America, Canada and Asia, as well as sold for animal feed in Iowa.

VESTAS HUB ARRIVES AT IOWA LAKES



Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville has become an important source for operations and maintenance technicians for the growing wind energy industry. The college uses donated equipment, such as this Vestas turbine hub, to educate students. Iowa Lakes' Wind Energy and Turbine Technology program is the most widely recognized in the nation. (Photo: Iowa Lakes Community College)

SNAP-ON COMPLETES IDIED-ASSISTED EXPANSION



Plant Manager Scott Marienau (center) cuts the ribbon as Snap-on, Inc., officially opens the 51,000 square foot warehouse addition in Algona. The Iowa Department of Economic Development awarded \$1 million from the Physical Infrastructure Assistance Program (PIAP) and Enterprise Zone tax benefits to assist Algona in successfully competing for the \$12 million expansion and 31 new jobs. Snap-on manufactures mechanics' tool boxes in Algona and ships directly to customers worldwide. (Photo: Mindy Baker/Algona Upper Des Moines)

New Hormel plant for Dubuque

Hormel Foods Corporation will construct a new \$89 million food production facility in Dubuque this year to meet increased consumer demand for microwavable meals. The 327,000 square foot manufacturing plant is expected to be operational by November 2009.

Equipped with two production lines, Hormel's state of the art facility will have capacity for expansion to four production lines. A total of 180 new jobs will be created initially with more jobs expected in future phases of growth.

"Consumer demand for shelf stable microwave meals is exploding. This investment will allow us to increase our production capacity

and continue our leadership position through innovation and new products," said Jeffrey Ettinger, Hormel Foods chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer.

"Dubuque is an excellent location. It offers a talented work force and a vibrant cultural environment," said Russell Potter, Hormel vice president of grocery products operations. "The proximity of Dubuque to our main grocery products distribution center (in Eldridge, Iowa) was an important logistical consideration."

The Iowa Economic Development Board awarded the Dubuque project tax benefits from the High Quality Job Creation (HQJC) program for 21 of the jobs that pay an average wage of \$28.57 per hour.

Based in Austin, Minnesota, Hormel Foods is a multinational manufacturer and marketer of consumer-branded food and meat products. In each of the past nine years, Hormel Foods has ranked as one of Forbes magazine's "400 Best Big Companies in America." Hormel has other Iowa locations in Algona, Bondurant, Eldridge, Fort Dodge, Knoxville, Mitchellville, Nevada and Osceola.



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perfect position to serve a market with outstanding growth potential."

The Newton facility will be updated with improvements including new cranes, press pit modifications, rail improvements, storage yard improvements and various other modifications to produce wind tower structures. The Iowa Department of Economic Development Board awarded tax benefits from the High Quality Jobs Creation (HQJC) program for Trinity to create 31 of the 140 new jobs. Trinity was also awarded \$630,000 from the Physical Infrastructure Assistance Program (PIAP) to prepare the facility for manufacturing.

TSTI, a leading manufacturer of structural

wind towers in the United States, is a subsidiary of Trinity Industries, Inc., a multi-industrial company publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

In addition to TSTI, Iowa is home to some of the biggest names in wind energy production, including Acciona Windpower in West Branch, Clipper Windpower in Cedar Rapids, TPI Composites in Newton, Hendricks Industries in Keokuk and Siemens Power Generation in Fort Madison.

The American Wind Energy Association reports that Iowa ranks first in the nation in the percentage of its electricity generated from wind energy. Iowa has more than 1,000 wind turbines in operation statewide, capable of producing 1,273 megawatts of electricity.

GROWING A NEW PLASTIC

Iowa is strategically placed to reap the benefits of the growing use of naturally biodegradable bioplastics made from renewable resources such as corn. Telles—a joint venture between Archer Daniels Midland and Metabolix—is constructing a state-of-the-art plant adjacent to the ADM corn wet mill complex in Clinton to produce bioplastics for this new market.

Using starch from the corn grind, the facility uses a natural fermentation process to convert sugars into the naturally biodegradable bioplastics that Telles markets as Mirel™.

After production begins in late 2008, the facility will have an annual capacity of 110 million pounds and create more than 110 jobs. The new \$300-million facility was leveraged by tax benefits from the Iowa Department of Economic Development-administered Enterprise Zone program.

"Every product made from Mirel is one less product made from petroleum, and one step forward on the path toward energy security and environmental improvement," says Patricia Woertz, ADM president and CEO. "Mirel is an important step in response to some of our most pressing challenges, including reducing reliance on foreign oil."

Noting that ADM employs 800 people at its Clinton operation, Woertz says the community was a natural choice for the new facility. "As large and as global as we are, when it came time to decide where to build this facility, we knew right where to come," she says. "We've always been able to count on Clinton for its hard work and dedication."



CALENDAR

May 13	Global Iowa Conference Sheraton, West Des Moines
May 14	Advanced Manufacturing Conference Kirkwood Com College, Cedar Rapids
May 16-26	China Trade Mission
June 1-4	AWEA American Wind Energy Association WINDPOWER 2008 George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX
June 17-20	BIO International Convention San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA
June 28-July 1	IFT New Orleans Institute of Food Technology Annual Meeting & Food Expo New Orleans Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA

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The stunning building and grounds to be constructed on a 71-acre site (southwest corner of Jordan Creek Parkway and George Mills Civic Parkway) will cost upwards of \$150 million.

The Iowa Department of Economic Development approved incentives for Iowa to gain the Aviva USA headquarters; 544 new jobs will be created paying an average wage of \$37.44 per hour. Aviva was awarded \$632,000 from the Community Economic Betterment Account (CEBA), \$1,000,000 from the Physical Infrastructure Assistance Program (PIAP) and tax benefits from High Quality Job Creation (HQC) program.

Aviva plc, the world's fifth largest insurance group, acquired AmerUs Group in late 2006. Since that time, more than 280 new jobs have been added to the Greater Des Moines area. There are currently 900 employees in the Greater Des Moines area, and the new operations headquarters is planned to accommodate up to 1,500 employees.

ADDING BIOPROCESSING FACILITY

Diamond V Mills is planning to add a second yeast culture building in Cedar Rapids, where the company is headquartered. The \$12 million bioprocessing expansion is expected to create 16 jobs and retain 38 jobs.

Diamond V is a manufacturer of yeast culture and feed ingredients used in animal nutrition world-wide. To secure the expansion, the



Iowa Department of Economic Development awarded the company \$250,000 from the Value-Added Agricultural Products and Processes Financial Assistance Program (VAAPFAP) and tax benefits from the High Quality Jobs Creation (HQC) program.

The new facility will have 25,000 square feet of production area and 3,000 square feet of offices.

Construction of the new facility will begin this summer with production expected to commence some time next year.