

Pickens County
Courier

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Tri Tech bringing new jobs to county

New facility creates at least 40 jobs

PICKENS — Pickens County just got an early Christmas present.

Tri Tech USA, Inc., of South Burlington, Vermont will relocate its headquarters and manufacturing operations to the Pickens County Commerce Park in Liberty, according to Alliance Pickens and the South Carolina Department of Commerce.

“On the heels of recent bad economic news, hopefully folks will enjoy seeing a little good economic news,” said Ray Farley, executive director of Alliance Pickens

The announcement culminates a ten month, multi-state search by Tri Tech USA officials.

“We are very pleased to be joining the Pickens County community. The decision, to relocate our business was not an easy one. We had many issues to consider in making our decision, Pickens County, Alliance Pickens, and the State of South Carolina worked very hard to win our commitment to move here. It is clear to us that the support will continue long after the move and we look forward to supporting the local community to make this a “win-win” for everyone,” said Joe and Linda Bacigalupo, owners of Tri Tech USA, Inc.

Tri Tech USA, Inc is an advanced manufacturing company.

Following construction completion of its approximate 41,000 square-foot facility; estimated to be August 2009, Tri Tech will employ at least 40 people and invest at about \$4 million in two different lines of business.

The first line of business is production of commercial grade mobile kitchen units for the United States military. These mobile kitchen units will be used to feed, nourish and comfort the front line soldier in military operations worldwide.

The kitchens are made in various sizes, are easily transportable via helicopter, plane or truck, and will serve from 90 to 600 soldiers, depending upon the size of the kitchen.

Tri Tech’s second line of business is advanced metalworking in commercial industrial applications. Tri Tech will manufacture metal components used in a variety of industries, including automotive, aerospace, pharmaceutical, food processing and furniture.

“Tri Tech USA provides engineering and design expertise, machining, fabrication and finishing services to customers throughout the United States. The company’s

decision to locate its headquarters in South Carolina is an extraordinary testament to our state's business-friendly climate and the strength of our state's workforce. This investment will also bring with it a significant number of jobs that will positively impact the local economy. Thanks to the team effort of state and local officials, Pickens County will benefit from this investment," said Joe Taylor, Secretary of Commerce.

Neil Smith, chairman of County Council said, "Pickens County Council is proud that Tri Tech USA has chosen Pickens County as its new home. Getting a new manufacturing operation in this economy solidifies our belief that a pro business atmosphere will continue to generate new jobs."

"We are extremely pleased Tri Tech USA and Joe and Linda Bacigalupo have chosen to make Pickens County their home. Affiance Pickens pledges our continued support during their relocation to South Carolina. This is another example of an Advanced Manufacturing Company choosing The Pickens County Commerce Park not only for their manufacturing but also their Corporate Headquarters and Research and Development Center. We are excited to support their future growth, said Ed Parris," chairman of Affiance Pickens.

The Liberty office of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission will handle job applications. ReadySC will perform employee training at Tri-County Technical College. The manufacturing positions will pay an average hourly wage in the \$17 per hour range.