

Charleston region's automotive, aerospace and marine industries gain momentum

June 9, 2008 – 2AM Group, LLC, has become the Charleston region's first bundled technical service supplier for automotive, aerospace and marine vehicle and product manufacturers. The company, headquartered in Spartanburg, S.C., recently launched its second U.S. operation in Charleston County's Pepperdam Industrial Park and expects to employ more than 50 at the facility by year end.

According to company officials, 2AM Group was started in South Carolina with a multi-year technical service contract with BMW in Spartanburg. "We anticipate additional growth in the automotive, aerospace and marine industries, and view Charleston as a strategic location to continue our successful industry partnerships," said Artie Perry, 2AM Group President and CEO. "With local support from the Charleston Regional Development Alliance plus a number of growth-focused manufacturers, the decision to locate in the Charleston area was very simple. We are excited about forming similar relationships with vehicle and product manufacturers in the area as we have with BMW."

"As BMW recently announced our further commitment to South Carolina and our own expansion in the state, it is a pleasure to know that much of the technical knowledge BMW shares with our suppliers will bring opportunities to other areas of the state," said Bobby Hitt, BMW Manager of Public Affairs. "BMW has worked closely with 2AM for several years and is supportive of their growth and success."

2AM Group (an acronym for Automotive, Aerospace and Marine) provides numerous services, including product launch management and engineering; parts assembly and logistic sequencing; quality inspection and verification; component rework and repair; quality system development and Foreign Trade Zone operations and management. 2AM has dual quality certifications in automotive (ISO9000) and aerospace (AS9100), one of two companies in the Charleston area with both designations and one of just a few in South Carolina.

"Our region's automotive, aerospace and marine industries continue to grow and demonstrate enormous potential," said Robert L. Pratt, Chairman of the Charleston Regional Development Alliance Chairman. "The presence of first-class, experienced premium suppliers like 2AM Group will attract additional international interest in our market."

"We are very pleased to welcome 2AM Group to the Charleston corporate family," said Tim Scott, Chairman of Charleston County Council. "This technically experienced quality and logistics service provider will play an important role in filling a void in our local market, servicing the packaging, kitting and delivery needs of many of our automotive, aerospace and marine companies beyond what is currently available. They supply a missing ingredient in our regional supply chain that will further position their customers for success and create a win-win for all."

North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey also celebrated 2AM Group's decision to locate in the region. "We're extremely pleased 2AM Group has chosen to grow in our city. I am confident our region's talented people and pro-business environment will greatly contribute to the company's ongoing success."

About 2AM Group, LLC

2AM Group provides manufacturing, logistics and quality support to the automotive, aerospace and marine Industries throughout North America and Europe. The company's primary focus is to support all of the service characteristics for premium manufacturers requiring product engineering, quality and planning for the mobility industries. 2AM Group currently employs nearly 200 associates in the state of South Carolina. To learn more, go to 2AMGroup.com.

About the Charleston Regional Development Alliance

The Charleston Regional Development Alliance represents Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties with a mission to create improved opportunities for all residents within this three-county region. Working with a statewide network of allies, the Alliance markets Charleston to the world as a preferred location for business, and helps to facilitate new investment within the three-county area. The Alliance closely aligns its efforts with those of other organizations to drive a sustainable, regional economic development strategy. To learn more, go to charlestoneconomicdevelopment.com.