

Southern Color N.A.

(Harleyville, S.C. - April 3, 2008) Southern Color N.A. unveiled its new 60,000 square foot cement coloring facility at Harleyville, South Carolina in an afternoon ribbon cutting at the plant site located one mile south of Harleyville. The program opened with an invocation by Harleyville Mayor Charles Ackerman where he led the group of community and business leaders, elected officials, company executives, and Harleyville area citizens in a prayer of thanksgiving for the new opportunities the facility would bring to Harleyville.

Thomas McNally, Southern Color Operations Manager, served as the Master of Ceremonies for the occasion. McNally praised the Town of Harleyville, Dorchester County and South Carolina for their assistance in bringing the plant to the Harleyville area of Dorchester County. "I especially wish to thank Mr. Charles Dantzler for working with us to make this 12 acre portion of his property available. It was Mr. Dantzler's willingness to work with us and the help we received from the many allies that are here today that made this project site work for us. We are proud to be the first facility to locate on Commerce Avenue," he said.

Harleyville Mayor Charles Ackerman returned to the podium and outlined how the town worked with local officials to bring about the successful location of the plant at its site one mile south of Harleyville. "It was the combination of many factors that worked in our favor. Mr. Dantzler owned the site that was served by the railroad. This is the same rail line that connects the three cement plants in the area, so it was a natural place for Southern Color to begin its newest operation. We were very pleased to work with the county and the state to develop this site," he said.

County Council Chairman Larry Hargett also praised the team effort. "Many people don't realize that this team has worked since 2006 on this project.

As you can tell, there are more sites here for the future and we very much desire to have other industries locate here and at other places in Upper Dorchester County to bring new jobs and new investment. I am very proud to be here today to cut the ribbon with our other leaders and formally open this \$5.0 million dollar facility. I believe it is safe to say that our 'cement cluster' is definitely doing well here in Dorchester County," he said.

County Council Vice Chairman Willie Davis added his remarks, noting that this location is actually in Councilman Kenneth Waggoner's District, but that Mr. Waggoner had ask him to speak at this occasion. "I think that the key word here is JOBS! This new plant is now open with 8 employees and is expected to grow to 10 or 12 by the end of the year. Ultimately, when a second shift is added the plant may employ as many as 20 to 24 people. I really want to salute Southern Color for making the choice of locating here and giving this part of the county new opportunities," he concluded.

"Later today you are going to see our robotic loading demonstration as you tour the plant. This is a good time to also thank our electric utility - South Carolina Electric and Gas for working with us to meet our power requirements. As you can also see, we are connecting to the rail line and will soon be served by CSX to connect our plant with customers around the Southeast," said Operations Manager Tom McNally.

South Carolina Senator Larry Grooms saluted Dorchester County and its leadership team. "Projects like this just don't happen," he said. When you get a company to invest \$5.0 million dollars in a new site and a 60,000 square foot building, it is obvious that there is an economic development team in the background. It is my pleasure to salute the leadership of Harleyville, Dorchester County, and the state of South Carolina that have shared in the development of this two year project. Thank you for asking me to be here to take part in this salute to the new plant and to the community', he added.

Senator Randy Scott added, "As Dorchester County continues to grow, it is more important that we work together to make sure that the Upper County benefits from our economic development success. Opening the new Harleyville Commerce Center is certainly a big step in this direction. I wish to thank Southern Color for selecting this site in Dorchester County and creating these new jobs here at Harleyville,"

South Carolina Representative Patsy G. Knight, also spoke prior to the ribbon cutting by adding, "I want you to know that your elected officials are working hard to bring more industry to Upper Dorchester County. We understand that good jobs equal improved opportunities for everyone. Your delegation and County Council are working together to improve infrastructure and add additional job training opportunities.

You'll be seeing more of this as the Quick Jobs Development Center of Trident Technical College opens in St. George in 2010. Today it is my pleasure to welcome this new plant and salute the county and the town for working with us to improve the quality of life for everyone, she concluded.

Joe Taylor, Secretary of Commerce added, "Southern Color provides custom pigments blending services for residential and commercial industries. The company's decision to invest in South Carolina is a testament that the state's business-friendly and skilled workforce are working to recruit job opportunities throughout our state. Thanks to the team efforts of state and local officials, the Harleyville community will benefit from this investment now and in the years ahead."

Dennis Valentino, Vice President, Supply Chain & Logistics, of Southern Color's parent company, Rockwood Color Pigments & Services, replied to the community salute and welcome by saying "this project truly represents a strategic, long term initiative for Southern Color.

The site selection criteria, developed back in 2005, required a location in close proximity to our customers, rail access, a reliable work pool, and an environmentally sound site. The Harleyville location, coupled with the incentives offered by state and local government, made this an easy choice. We are proud to be the first employer on Commerce Avenue."

Southern Color N.A. of Harleyville joins other company facilities in providing custom color blending services for the residential and commercial building and construction industry.

A ribbon cutting took place at the one the large bay doors followed by a plant tour. Inside the plant guests saw multiple blenders, coupled with a state-of-the-art control system and plant floor design that all contributed to the plants excellent safety performance in the first full year of operation. Guests also saw a demonstration of the Chantland robotic auto palletizing system used at the plant. The half-million dollar robot can stack 2800 bags of cement products per 8 hour shift.

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