

## **Shaw Industries Group, Inc. to Expand its Lexington County Operations**

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March 12, 2008

The South Carolina Department of Commerce and the Central S.C. Alliance today joined Shaw Industries Group, Inc. in announcing the company's intention to expand its manufacturing operations in Lexington County, South Carolina. Over the next five years Shaw Industries Group, Inc. anticipates investing approximately \$60 million and expects to create 350 new jobs as a result of the investment.

Richard Stuckey, Regional Director for Shaw Industries Group, commented, "We are pleased to announce the expansion of our Lexington County manufacturing facility. This investment demonstrates our commitment to the growth of our business presence in South Carolina and will provide career opportunities for our current and future employees. Shaw Industries Group currently has over 1,500 employees in South Carolina manufacturing operations that produce nylon carpet fibers to support our future growth. With the aid and support of Lexington County and South Carolina economic development personnel, we were able to complete development and approval of this project quickly and effectively. We will continue to look for opportunities to grow our business investment in South Carolina to meet our customers' needs."

Shaw Industries purchased the former Allied Signal/Honeywell facility, where it currently operates, two years ago. Shaw Industries will upfit an unused portion of the facility for its polymer chip production which will be used to generate carpet yarn. The company currently employs more than 400 people at its Lexington County facility.

"Today's announcement is another sign that our efforts to improve the economic soil conditions are working to grow existing businesses and create new jobs for South Carolina. We remain committed to continuing to improve the state's business climate to encourage economic growth and attract new investments to the state," said Gov. Mark Sanford.

"Shaw Industries is the world's largest carpet manufacturer. It is a company with a recognized commitment to customer satisfaction, innovation, and strong corporate citizenship. Their decision to expand in South Carolina is evidence that our state's business-friendly climate is again working to grow businesses and create opportunities for more South Carolinians. Thanks to the team effort of local and state officials, Lexington County will benefit from this investment," said Joe Taylor, Secretary of Commerce.

"Today's highly competitive global market place is recognized by Lexington County Council and we are committed to helping existing business and industry with their growth plans. We are very appreciative of Shaw Industries making the decision to expand and create a significant number of new jobs for the citizens of this region," said Lexington County Council Chairman Billy Derrick.

Central S.C. Alliance Chairman George Bullwinkel Jr. said, "Today's significant announcement by Shaw Industries Group to expand its Lexington County facility is great news for the citizens of Central South Carolina. The economic strength of our 12-county region comes from the

existing industry base and the continued investment by these companies. Shaw Industries is a recognized leader in being eco-friendly towards our environment and we welcome companies that have these types of corporate principals and values.”

#### About Shaw

Shaw Industries, Inc., a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., is the world’s largest carpet manufacturer and a leading floor covering provider with more than \$5 billion in annual sales and approximately 31,000 associates. Headquartered in Dalton, Ga., the company manufactures and distributes carpeting, rugs, hardwood, laminate and ceramic tile for residential and commercial applications worldwide. A recognized leader in environmental stewardship, Shaw has implemented hundreds of sustainability initiatives and cradle-to-cradle design solutions, collectively termed the Shaw Green Edge. For more information, visit [www.shawfloors.com](http://www.shawfloors.com).

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