

ECONOMIC GROWTH CONTINUING:

INVESTMENT BY AISIN USA & REIGN TIGHT; "SPEC" FINISHED ...

Jackson County's largest industrial employer is planning to invest more than \$28.5 million in its Seymour facilities and create 19 new jobs over the next two years.

Aisin USA Manufacturing, Inc. announced in late April expansion plans at its two facilities at the East Side Industrial Park, and Seymour City Council approved tax abatement for the project.

The company is purchasing new machinery and equipment to support production of automotive components for new and existing vehicle models, including Toyota's Sienna, Camry, Highlander, Corolla and Avalon lines, the Honda Odyssey and Chevrolet, Subaru and Lexus models.

At Plant 1, located at 1700 E. Fourth St., the company is anticipating spending an estimated \$2.6 million in building renovations and \$22.9 million in new manufacturing equipment for a total of \$25.5 million. An additional \$3 million is projected to be invested at Plant 2 at 500 Burkart Blvd.

Currently, Aisin has a workforce of 1,395 employees at Plant 1 and expects that to grow by 19 as a result of the investments, said Jim Plump, executive director of JCIDC. The new jobs will increase the local income tax base by nearly \$1 million in salaries.

In addition, Andy Royalty announced plans to form a new company and will construct a 20,000 square foot building near his corporate headquarters on East Tipton Street in Seymour.

Reign Tight Roofing Systems is being created to produce "raw roofing membrane for roof system
(ECONOMIC GROWTH continued on page 2)

... JACKSON CONNECT PHASE II OF FIBER PROJECT ANNOUNCED

Jackson Connect, a division of Jackson County REMC, announced plans for Phase 2 of their "fiber to the home" project, totaling \$9,715,835 in Jackson County.

Tax abatement was approved by the Jackson County Council, which will affect seven townships in Jackson County. Given the initial investment last year of over \$5.4 million, this will bring REMC's investment in Jackson County to over \$15 million.

Timing on this phase was to begin around June 1st, and be completed in 1 year, said Mark McKinney, Jackson County REMC General Manager.

Although no new jobs were promised for this phase, the company has nearly doubled its initial forecast of five new jobs with nine new positions already filled. In addition to Jackson, REMC also is continuing its investment in Washington and Brown counties as part of Phase 2.

JCIDC requested the abatement "which is not industrial ... but because of quality of place, we must work to improve our area as a place where people want to live," said Jim Plump, executive director of JCIDC.

Last year, Jackson County REMC announced the creation of Jackson Connect and the plan to invest \$5,430,658 throughout its service territory in Jackson County. At the time, it was reported the project could total over \$20 million in 12 Jackson County townships as part of the overall, 5-year plan which could total \$60 million.



From left, Lewis Basbagill, Network Engineer, Mark McKinney, General Manager, Matt Persinger, Technology Manager, Nicole Ault, Communications Specialist. of Jackson Connect

SEYMOUR AWARDED “OPPORTUNITY ZONE”

An area in the southeast section of Seymour has been named an “Opportunity Zone”, which could provide tax incentives for investors in that area.

Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb included the Seymour tract among the 156 “Opportunity Zones” he submitted to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury in April, and Treasury Department approved the list in May.

The federal “Opportunity Zone” program was created in the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and provides federal capital gains tax incentives to attract private sector investment in those areas. “This new program provides one more tool to attract investment and help more of our Hoosier communities succeed,” Gov. Holcomb said.

The designations remain in place for 10 years which encourages long-term investment in the selected communities, and Seymour Mayor Craig Luedeman said the area of town that qualified for zone status will soon see the southern extension of Burkart Boulevard built through it.

“It was pretty much a no-brainer,” said Luedeman. “Once the new road is built, we would expect to see development there, and this program might provide incentives to encourage that investment.”

There were nearly 2,000 eligible census tracts, and the Governor’s 156 nominated census tracts are located in 58 counties covering all or portions of 83 cities and towns throughout the state.

DUKE ENERGY AWARDS MARKETING GRANT TO JCIDC

Duke Energy has awarded a grant of \$5,000 to the Jackson County Industrial Development group as part of the company’s 2018 Marketing Partnership Program.

“The Marketing Partnership Program is designed to help our Duke Energy-served communities implement strategic marketing plans that can showcase the community’s assets and support continued economic development growth and prosperity,” said Erin Schneider, director of economic development for Duke Energy Indiana. “Working together as a team, we improve the chances of success for our communities.”

Jackson County Industrial Development received the grant through a competitive application process. It was based on the group’s economic development activity, innovative approach and the overall benefits and sustainability of the initiative.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR PLUMP

Jim Plump, executive director of Jackson County Industrial Development Corporation, was presented the Lifetime Achievement in Economic Development award during the 50th anniversary celebration of the Indiana Economic Development Association on June 22nd in Indianapolis.

“It was a very nice honor ... very humbling,” said Plump, who has served as director of JCIDC since the organization’s inception in 1984. “Over the years, I have been blessed to work for outstanding boards of directors and with great elected officials, plus market a terrific area of the State of Indiana ... Jackson County. That’s a great combination for success.”

ATC Group Supporting JCIDC

ATC Group Services, LLC, specializing in environmental, geotechnical, building services and materials testing, has joined the list of contributors supporting JCIDC.

Marvin Veatch, head of the resource development committee, announced the company will contribute at the silver level. “We are pleased to welcome ATC to our list of supporters,” said Veatch.

Founded in 1982 in Sioux Falls, SD as an independent testing laboratory, ATC Group Services has expanded its services through growth and acquisition, and has an office in Indianapolis at 7988 Centerpoint Drive among its 115 locations. The company employs more than 1,900.

(ECONOMIC GROWTH continued from page 1)

installation”, and \$1.275 million in new equipment will be invested in addition to new building construction of \$1.2 million.

Seymour City Council approved a 10-year tax abatement for the project, which is expected to create 10 new jobs by the end of the year. Royalty also appeared at the June 11th meeting of City Council and was granted abatement for a \$1.4 million investment to “finish” the spec building at the East Side Park.

Royalty and his company, TDAK, had originally built the “spec” in 2016, and was granted abatement on the \$1.2 million investment; the latest abatement allows the company to finish the building and signals a new user for the 70,000 square foot facility.

The 2nd quarter activity brings total promised investment in Jackson County to \$83.1 million for 2018.

OWL MANUFACTURING WRAPS UP SECOND YEAR

Owl Manufacturing at Seymour High School just wrapped up its 2nd year and the program has grown expediently in the past 12 months according to educator, Curt Schleibaum, "I feel that Owl Manufacturing is headed in a growth path with expansion in all directions as we become more of a student run company at an educational school scale." David Wait, VPI Engineering Leader at SEP and a member of the Owl Advisory Group stated, "I'm ecstatic at the progress Owl Manufacturing has made between year one and two. The students have surpassed my expectations in terms of technical abilities, project management, and general business skills." Schleibaum, along with Jeremy Wischmeier, spent two days at Seymour Engine Plant in June. Schleibaum said, "The time we spent at SEP was valuable allowing us to work on ways to improve the internal handling of student documentation and building the curriculum to make sure we are up to industry standards."

One of the goals for Owl Manufacturing is to equip students with the skills needed to be successful in manufacturing and ultimately connect them with industries providing them with hands-on opportunities that will prepare them for the future workforce. Dylan Rigdon, who served as President of Owl Manufacturing this past school year, is employed in a summer internship at SEP working in the manufacturing engineering department. Rigdon, who will be a senior this fall, said the opportunity at SEP has

given him insight into manufacturing and confirmed that this career pathway will be his choice following graduation.

Rigdon has been an Owl Manufacturing student since the program began in 2016. He said, "Being a part of Owl Manufacturing has been amazing and honestly, I learned more real world skills in that class than any other I have taken." He credits his teachers, Schleibaum and Wischmeier, for giving 110% to the program and making sure he and his co-workers will be successful in whatever career path they choose.

During his senior year, Rigdon will continue his employment with SEP through the school-to-work program at SHS. "Owl Manufacturing has not only given me the opportunity to work in a school based manufacturing setting, but also has allowed me to connect with industry paving the way for my future," said Rigdon. "I won't be as active in Owl Manufacturing during my senior year but plan to stay connected providing advice or lending a hand to others in the program." Upon high school graduation he plans to work full time at Cummins and apply for their Co-Op program pursuing two Associates Degrees in Engineering Technology and Mechanical Engineering Technology, ultimately hoping to someday own his own business. Wait added, "I look forward to seeing Owl Manufacturing graduates join the local workforce. I applaud SHS leadership, Owl Manufacturing teachers, JCIDC, and the community for starting and supporting such a vital program to enhance the manufacturing potential within the local workforce."



Dylan Rigdon, SHS Owl Manufacturing student, explains one of his internship responsibilities to Curt Schleibaum and Jeremy Wischmeier, SHS educators, as Greg Nixon and James McNeely with SEP look on.



Educators from schools in Jackson County are spending time at industries this summer gaining knowledge about the manufacturing process and obtaining information about job and career opportunities they can take back to the classrooms and share with their students. Pictured above are educators visiting Aisin USA.

JCIDC'S "INDUSTRY SHOWCASE" RETURNS TO JACKSON COUNTY FAIR

Jackson County Industrial Development Corporation will sponsor the 4th annual "Industry Showcase" at this year's 2018 Jackson County Fair in Brownstown. The event will be held in Building 4 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, and local industries will be on display from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 23-27.

Companies participating this year are: Aisin Companies of Jackson County, Cummins (Seymour Engine Plant), Excel Manufacturing, Pet Supplies Plus, Marion Kay, Rose Acre Farms, Lannett, Valeo, and Jackson County Connect.

2018 Board of Directors

Kevin Gabbard, President
(First Financial Bank)
Curt Kovener, V.P.
(Town of Crothersville)
Warren Forgey, Secretary
(Schneck Medical Center)
Craig Luedeman, V.P.
(City of Seymour)
Marvin Veatch, Treasurer
(Jackson County Bank)
Cheryl Baker
(HWC Engineering)
Arann Banks
(Jackson County Visitor Center)
Tricia Bechman
(Seymour Chamber of Commerce)

Dan Davis
(Community Foundation)
Scott Davis
(Seymour Aviation Authority)
Ray Eakins
(Old National Bank)
Rodney Farrow
(City of Seymour)
Dave Hall
(Jackson County Council)
Rob Hooker
(County School Superintendents)
Kevin Johnson
(Ranger Enterprises LLC)
Sally Lawson
(Town of Brownstown)

Jeff Lorenzo
(Seymour Industrial Corporation)
Jeff Morning
(Brownstown Chamber)
Chip Orben
(Duke Energy)
Pete Peterson
(RQAW Corporation)
Marilyn Price
(Mutual Bank)
Brad Pritchett
(Jackson County REMC)
Matt Reedy
(County Commissioners)
Katie Sackett
(LIRC)

John Sadtler
(SIHO)
Lonn Stuckwisch
(Berkshire Hathaway)
Mike Weir
(Town of Medora)
Brian Wheeler
(Brownstown EDA)
Wynn Wright
(Indiana American Water)

JCIDC Staff
Jim Plump
Mary Winburn
Jackie Hill
Jody Deckard

2018 Contributors

Board Level

Berkshire Hathaway
Brownstown Chamber
Brownstown EDA
Brownstown Town Board
City of Seymour
Community Foundation
County Council
County Commissioners
Crothersville Town Board
Duke Energy
First Financial Bank
HWC Engineering
Indiana-America Water
Jackson County Bank
Jackson County REMC
Jackson County Visitor Center
Louisville & Indiana Railroad
Medora Town Board
Mutual Bank
Old National Bank
RQAW Corporation
Ranger Enterprises LLC
Schneck Medical Center
Seymour Aviation Authority
Seymour Chamber
Seymour Industrial Corp.
SIHO

Gold Level

Aisin USA Manufacturing
Biehle Electric
DEEM LLC
FPBH, Inc.
German American Bank
Peoples Bank
Royalty Companies
Runnebohm Construction
Seymour Tubing, Inc.
SpaceGuard
Vernon Township Trustee

Silver Level

ATC Group Services LLC
Aisin Chemical Indiana
Andersons
Cornerstone Environmental
Dunlap Construction
Force Construction
GAI Consultants
Gaylor Electric
Goecker Construction
Harmon Construction
Kenny Glass
King's Trucking
Lannett
Lawyer Excavation
Marmon Retail Products

Silver continued...

Metronet
Montgomery, Elsner and
Pardieck
Milestone
O&k American Corp.
Rose Acre Farms
Rumpke of Indiana
State Bank of Medora
The Tribune
Vectren

Bronze Level

B&H Electric
Blue & Company
CC ILL Holdings
Shelby Materials

Contributor Level

Aisin Drivetrain, Inc.
Cooler Design, Inc.
Mark Dennis & Co., CPA
Harrell-Fish Inc.
Independent Land Survey
Jackson Co. Water Utility
Midwest Natural Gas
Mussett Nicholas
Eric Reedy & Assoc.
Shepherd Insurance

Workforce

Partnership

Aisin Chemical Indiana
Aisin Drivetrain, Inc.
Aisin Holdings of America
Aisin USA Mfg.
Brownstown Schools
City of Seymour
Columbus Education
Coalition
Community Foundation
Elwood Staffing
Excel Manufacturing
Excel Tool
E & H Tubing
Jackson County Visitor
Center
Jackson County Education
Coalition
Lannett
Marmon Retail Products
O&k American
PD Pharmatech
R.R. Donnelley
Rose Acre Farms
Schneck Medical Center
Seymour Engine Plant
Seymour Tubing, Inc.
The Royal Group
Valeo North America Inc.
Wal-Mart Distribution

Special Event Sponsors

Beatty Insurance	Force Construction	Louisville & Indiana Railroad	Ranger Enterprises
Berkshire Hathaway	Harrell-Fish Inc.	First Financial Bank	Schneck Medical Center
Mutual Bank	Indiana American Water	Old National Bank	SIHO
Duke Energy	Jackson County Bank	Bob Poynter of Seymour	