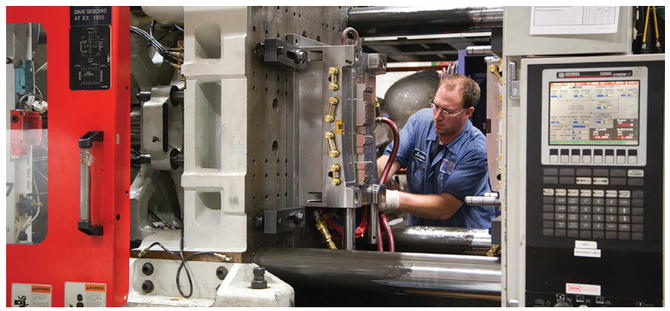
FULL-SERVICE SUPPORT:

Baxter Enterprises and Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering Start-up Operations with Help from readySC



As automotive manufacturers continue to grow in South Carolina, so does the need for local suppliers to support them, and readySC™ is here to help.

Baxter Enterprises and Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering, recognized as leaders in the plastics and tooling industries, are establishing operations in Oconee County. The firms are investing $20.7 million in the project and creating 87 new jobs over the next five years. A new 87,000 square-foot facility within the Oconee Industry and Technology Park will house both enterprises, with Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering's operations expected to comprise 17,500 square-feet of the new facility.

Owned by the Schulte family, the companies are full-service suppliers for the plastics industry that specialize in single-point management from conception to launch. The two operations complement one another. Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering, founded in 1982, designs, builds and repairs molds and provides mold services; while Baxter Enterprises, founded in 1997, manufactures injection-molded parts.

Echoing both companies' full-service approach, readySC is helping to meet their workforce recruitment and training needs as they get ready to start production in South Carolina. Ginger Hill, director of human resources for Hi Tech Mold & Engineering/Baxter Enterprises, appreciates the assistance during this critical period: "When the decision was made to expand Baxter Manufacturing and Hi-Tech Mold Carolina into Oconee County, we knew we had a big task ahead of us. From the very beginning, readySC stood beside us, providing invaluable resources in training and employee development, local and regional workforce information, recruiting efforts and advertisement, and so much more."

Hill believes that readySC is not "just another agency." She explains, "I have found the readySC staff to be committed to us as employers and to the people who make up the local workforce. Their dedication to ensuring that training needs are identified and met is second to none."

Impressed by the comprehensive level of support, Hill says, "This is a win-win situation for our companies, and for the employees who are gaining new opportunities from training and personal development. We are extremely fortunate to have such a resource as readySC available to us as we settle in to South Carolina, and we look forward to a long and prosperous relationship with the wonderful people who make up the readySC staff!" ■

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— GINGER HILL, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HI TECH MOLD & ENGINEERING/BAXTER ENTERPRISES

BAXTER MANUFACTURING

HI-TECH MOLD CAROLINA

About Baxter Enterprises

Founded in 1998, Baxter Enterprises is a family-owned and operated company. The company is a full-service Tier 1 and Tier 2 supplier to the plastics industry which offers product design and development, production molding, assembly and warehousing. For more information on Baxter Enterprises, visit www.baxterent.com.

About Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering

Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering is a family-owned and operated business that values its team members' service, dedication and commitment to superior quality engineering and mold making. From concept to launch, small tool packages to entire vehicle platforms, Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering possesses the vision, leadership, experience and resources necessary to make your program a success. Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering maintains strategic alliances with multiple global partners providing its customers cost effective solutions and single-point management for major programs. Recognized as an industry leader and a full-service supplier for the plastics and tooling industries, the company executes the most challenging programs with continuous innovation. For more information on Hi-Tech Mold & Engineering, visit www.hitechmold.com.