



AUGUSTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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Textron Specialized Vehicles Announces Major Expansion in Augusta

Textron Specialized Vehicles today announced that it plans to acquire the former Procter & Gamble manufacturing facility in Augusta, expanding their campus by 235 acres, adding more than 600,000 square feet, and hiring up to 400 people.

The Augusta Economic Development Authority announced that Textron Specialized Vehicles will utilize the new facility to expand its operations in Augusta. The new plant will augment the company's existing headquarters and manufacturing facility, located about one mile away at 1451 Marvin Griffin Road.

The purchase will be facilitated through the issuance of \$20 million in revenue bonds, issued by the Augusta Economic Development Authority and backed by payments to be made by Textron Specialized Vehicles. The funds raised will cover the purchase price of the facility as well as capital improvements to prepare the facility for vehicle manufacturing.

Textron Specialized Vehicles has called the Augusta area home since the founding of its E-Z-GO business in 1954. Today, the company designs and manufactures more than 90 consumer and commercial vehicle models, ranging from

golf cars to side-by-sides to ground support equipment for the aviation industry, under the E-Z-GO[®], Cushman[®], Bad Boy[®], TUG[™] and Douglas[™] brands. Most of those products are manufactured in Augusta.

“This expansion will enable our company to rapidly increase its manufacturing throughput and flexibility to meet the growing needs, desires and demands of our different customers, from individual consumers to commercial enterprises,” said Kevin Holleran, president of Textron Specialized Vehicles.

To help facilitate the expansion, the Georgia Department of Economic Development will provide \$600,000 in a Project Development Grant, and more than \$1.6 million in job-training assistance through the Georgia Quick Start program, to Textron Specialized Vehicles. In return, the company will agree to generate up to 400 new jobs in Augusta, and make more than \$40 million in investment in the community, within the next five years. The company already employs nearly 1,000 people in Georgia, and has experienced workforce growth of more than 13 percent annually, on average, since 2010.

“We are fortunate to be able to facilitate such expansion in our hometown, and are thankful for the assistance of the Augusta Economic Development Authority, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, and our city and state officials to bring this project to fruition,” Holleran said. “The city of Augusta, the surrounding region and the state of Georgia have been valuable partners for our company since its earliest days, so we are proud and pleased to build on our legacy as one of the area’s most lasting and vibrant manufacturers.”

“Textron Specialized Vehicles’ decision to expand its Augusta facility is continued proof of Georgia’s great infrastructure for manufacturing,” said Walter Sprouse, executive director of the Augusta Economic Development Authority. “The Augusta Economic Development Authority was excited to be a part in the organization’s expansion decision, and to assist, as always, with the creation of new jobs in the Augusta area.”

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