12-10-11

Ribbon-cutting celebrates CollinsCraft expansion

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

WESTMINSTER — A ribbon-cutting was held Friday morning to celebrate CollinsCraft Corporation's new 66,000-square-foot facility that signifies the expansion of its fiberglass and composite manufacturing operations in Oconee County.

Expansion of the existing facility at the intersection of S.C. Highway 11 and U.S. 123 was announced last spring, saying the multimillion-dollar investment is expected to generate about 20 new jobs during the next five years assuming market conditions continue to support growth.

At the time, owner Ken Collins said the expansion represents "a big step for our company."



JESSICA KELMS | THE JOURNAL

Ken Collins, center, who has owned and operated CollinsCraft Corporation for 30 years, cuts the ribbon officially celebrating its new 66,000-square-foot facility expected to generate 20 new jobs during the next five years.

"Oconee County offers us an excellent business environment and a ready and available work force," Collins said.

Collins pointed out that few people realize the huge costs associated with expansion of a small business.

"Not only do you have the facility construction costs, but the investment in creating new jobs is tremendous," he said. "Just one job created in this type industry involves in excess of $1 million in that job creation if all costs are considered."

But Collins added that his company was founded on the same biblical principles the nation was founded on, adding he believes in a strong work ethic, going the extra mile to provide superior products, strong customer support and a safe employee work environment.

CollinsCraft Corporation has been owned and operated by the Oconee County native for more than 30 years.

greg@dailyjm.com | (864) 973-6687