

Alexander County EDC *News Release*

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Schneider Mills launches new product line with Composite Fabrics of America

Schneider Mills, a textile company that has been operating in Alexander County for 63 years, has announced plans to launch a new company and product line in Alexander County.

Hank Byrd, President of Schneider Mills, addressed the Alexander County Board of Commissioners with details of the project at their November 23rd meeting. The new company will operate as Composite Fabrics of America, a wholly owned subsidiary of Schneider Mills. Matthew McPherson, current Director of Special Projects for Schneider Mills, will serve as President of the new company.

"Composite Fabrics of America will weave carbon fabric for the composite industry" Byrd stated. "The carbon fabric is used in a wide variety of ways [and] is utilized in conjunction with a resin treatment to make molded parts and objects."

Composite Fabrics of America will operate from an existing manufacturing facility located at 105 Pierpoint Lane in Taylorsville. "Our outlook is to be making samples between now and the end of January and to be in production by February," Byrd stated.

The carbon fabric will be used to make a wide variety of products including boats, car parts, canoes, paddles, bicycles, as well as a wide variety of sports and recreation equipment. The fabric is also used in the energy and aerospace industries and is utilized in various military applications.

The company will initially invest approximately one million dollars into the venture, and provide ten new jobs to Alexander County, with a potential for expanded employment as quickly as the fourth quarter of 2010.