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## *Carolinas Gateway Partnership News Release*

**May 11, 2010**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Metal Craft, Inc. Plans Expansion in Rocky Mount**

Metal Craft, Inc., a full service industrial contractor providing general contracting and plant maintenance services, announced plans to expand their existing operations by moving into the 35,000 square foot former Lee Tractor building located at 3209 S. Church Street in Rocky Mount. The company plans to invest nearly \$700,000, retain 11 existing jobs and create 40 new jobs.

"We look forward to the expansion of our company. A special thanks to the Carolinas Gateway Partnership for making the expansion possible. We can now rest at ease and look forward to a great relationship with the City of Rocky Mount and the community alike," said Metal Craft Vice President, Mike Barrett.

Metal Craft, incorporated in 2002, provides full service fabrication, rigging, millwright, piping, general plant maintenance, ASME Code fabrication and repair, and fabrication services meeting nuclear specifications and criteria. The company's industrial fabrication and finishing facility is prepared to complete any project requiring stainless steel, special alloys, aluminum and carbon steel metals. Their manufacturing facility is equipped with the equipment to fabricate vessels, carbon and stainless piping, heavy ductwork, structural steel, miscellaneous iron, platforms, catwalks, conveyors and support structures. Company welders are certified in both ASME and AWS weld procedures with weld process such as GTAW, GMAW, SMAW, FCAW, and SAW. Metal Craft's fabrication operations are set-up to work from simple sketches to complex drawings and offers in-house CAD services. Metal Craft's industrial construction service is equipped to handle and complete plant maintenance and plant construction projects in a timely and professional manner. The company's specialties include orbital welding, industrial maintenance, mechanical construction, equipment setting and relocating, equipment installations, structural steel erection, installation of fabricated items, inspections, plant shut-downs and supply of manpower.

Metal Craft serves a variety of industries including pharmaceutical, food processing, wood and paper products, textiles, general manufacturing, agriculture and power generation. The company specializes in emergency fast tract projects.

Rocky Mount Mayor David Combs said, "We are excited that Metal Craft is expanding and continuing to invest in the Twin County area. The fact that they are re-using an existing building is a great way to move forward quickly and probably more affordable in the long run. This expansion will add new jobs at a time of high unemployment in our area. It is my hope that they will continue to grow and will be a long term community partner."

"With the help of the Carolinas Gateway Partnership, expanding Metal Craft, Inc. will be a dream come true," stated Metal Craft President Robert G. Hitt, II.

"The Partnership is pleased to have assisted Metal Craft in its expansion and relocation. With our available labor and positive business climate, this confirms the advantages of a Twin County location for companies doing business throughout the Southeast," said Carolinas Gateway Partnership Chairman Frank Harrison.

The Carolinas Gateway Partnership, Inc. is a coalition of over 200 public and private sector investors from the Twin Counties, City of Rocky Mount, Town of Tarboro, and the Town of Nashville. For more information about the Partnership, call 252-442-0114, or email to [cgp@econdev.org](mailto:cgp@econdev.org).

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