



Contact:

Starke County Economic Development Foundation

4 North Main Street

Knox, IN 46534

Charles W. Weaver, Executive Director

(574) 772-5627

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SABRE MANUFACTURING LLC

ANNOUNCES ANOTHER EXPANSION IN STARKE COUNTY

Sabre Manufacturing LLC ("Sabre"), the Starke County Economic Development Foundation ("SCEDF"), and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ("IEDC") today announced plans for Sabre to expand its operations in Knox, Indiana. Sabre manufactures temporary environmental equipment known as "FRAC" tanks and "WEIR" tanks for the environmental and petroleum industries.

Sabre has been in operation in Starke County since 2005, when it acquired the abandoned General Woodworker plant from SCEDF, which organization had acquired the facility at a tax sale. The sale to Sabre was conditioned upon Sabre employing at least 20 persons within 18 months, a number that was more than met, as the company employed 99 persons by 2008. Sabre also expanded their facility in 2008 by doubling the capacity of its blast and paint facilities, at a cost of \$500,000 and the creation of an additional 20 jobs.

This most recent expansion will result in a Sabre expenditure of in excess of \$1 million, which will include new manufacturing equipment and building improvements. Sabre acquired existing buildings at the east end of the Sabre site, which is allowing the company to expand at their present Knox location. As a part of the expansion, Sabre has pledged to increase its current employment level of 145 employees up to 170 employees over the next year.

IEDC has offered incentives to Sabre which include:

- Up to \$31,250 in training grants from the Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF) to train Indiana resident employees; and
- Up to \$125,000 over ten years in Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) tax credits.

Sabre has also made application to the Knox Common Council to declare the recently-acquired real estate to be within an “Economic Revitalization Area”, thereby making the new manufacturing equipment and any rehabilitation of the newly-acquired buildings eligible for tax phase-in. Participation in offering incentives is required of the City of Knox for the IEDC incentives to be provided. Knox Mayor Rick Chambers said “We are enthusiastic about yet another expansion by Sabre in Knox, and our Common Council unanimously supports the offer of tax abatement to Sabre based on their plan for expansion. This is another opportunity for people to secure employment with a proven company right here in Starke County.”

Charles W. Weaver, SCEDF Executive Director said “We are pleased to see Sabre expand again, and are thrilled that SCEDF not only helped to provide a home for this company back in 2005, but SCEDF has continued to assist them since that date with any of their needs. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Sabre in the future and see that company as a real success story for Starke County.”

“Sabre is a homegrown Hoosier company that continues to invest and create new jobs in Northwest Indiana,” said Mitch Roob, Secretary of Commerce and chief executive officer and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. “Creating an environment that encourages companies like Sabre to grow is a top priority for our state”.

Jason Ries, Sabre Plant Manager said “Our Company’s decision to expand in Starke County has been made possible once again through the efforts of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, the City of Knox and the Starke County Economic Development Foundation. We are grateful to all of them and look forward to many more years of success in Starke County.”

About Sabre Manufacturing LLC

Sabre Manufacturing is an environmental equipment manufacturing company operating one of the largest blast and paint facilities in northern Indiana with a main emphasis on the production of large steel environmental waste containers, which are shipped to all parts of the United States and Canada. For more information regarding Sabre Manufacturing LL, visit www.sabremfgllc.com.

About the IEDC

As a result of legislation passed by the Indiana General Assembly in Feb. 2005, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) replaced the Department of Commerce as the premier entity charged with state economic development. The IEDC has a 12-member board chaired by Gov. Mitch Daniels. For more information about IEDC, please visit www.iedc.IN.gov.

About Starke County Economic Development Foundation

The Starke County Economic Development Foundation is a not-for-profit local economic development organization (LEDO) providing economic development opportunities on behalf of Starke County, Indiana, the City of Knox, and the Towns of North Judson and Hamlet through the development of industrial parks, rail spurs, greenfield sites, shovel-ready sites, infrastructure and workforce development. For more information regarding Starke County Economic Development Foundation, visit www.scedf.biz.

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