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811 Broad Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402
(423) 756-2121 FAX (423) 267-7242
www.chattanoogachamber.com

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Contact: Charles Amin 423-553-7751

Arch Plastics Doubles Plant Size, Adds 60 Jobs

Arch Plastics Packaging is a month away from a multi-million dollar expansion that will more than double the size of the pharmaceutical and personal care bottle-making plant and create 60 new jobs over the next two years in Chattanooga.

“Consumers can do without perfume and make-up, but we all must have our medication -- even during an economic downturn,” says Charles Amin, Arch Plastics president and CEO. “And as the population ages, there will be a steady growth in the demand for pharmaceuticals.”

Arch Plastics, which has customers located nationwide with high density in New Jersey and California, makes bottles for products, such as pills, shampoos, and hydrogen peroxide.

“I am always pleased when I hear about new jobs for our community,” said Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey. “It is especially welcome news as we continue to struggle with the recession. I congratulate Charles for his achievement and its positive impact on the community.”

“Charles Amin is a sterling example of an entrepreneurial immigrant who came to the U.S. from India and has become remarkably successful in the restaurant, hotel and manufacturing industries,” said Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield. “This is a story of the American dream, and our community is the beneficiary of Charles’ desire and ability to make the most of opportunities in his new country.”

During the initial planning phase of the Arch Plastics Polymer Drive plant, the site selection team looked at sites in Kentucky, Alabama and Georgia, but chose to locate in Chattanooga, because of the overwhelming support from the state, county, city, local banks, and utility companies, Amin said.

Also, Chattanooga’s transportation assets, including the rail line right behind the Arch Plastics building, was a major consideration in the decision to locate here.

Trevor Hamilton, vice president of economic development for the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, pointed out “Chattanooga is an excellent transportation hub with three interstates, two major railroads and access to 1,600 miles of navigable waterways.”

Hamilton said the Chamber is dedicated to helping existing businesses grow and expand. “We applaud Arch Plastics for its success and for demonstrating the viability of manufacturing companies in the 21st Century.”

The plant began operation in 2006 with a 25,000-square-foot plant, which now employs 40 people and will grow in this expansion another 60,000 square feet. And, Amin is already eyeing the rest of the property he owns on Polymer for the next expansion that could add another 25,000 square feet to the plant.

Amin and Arch Plastics facility manager, Shital Rali, are negotiating long-term contracts and, upon execution, plan to have twice as many machines in order to support the capacity of their customers. As a result, the plant’s revenue is projected to double over the next 24 months.

Since 1985, Amin has been actively involved in 23 projects, including nine hotels in Chattanooga, two manufacturing facilities in Chattanooga, and one manufacturing facility in Pendergrass, GA. He has helped create over 500 jobs through his own endeavors in the Chattanooga area. Some of the projects are maintained under new management.

Amin’s son, Roshan Amin, who has a similar entrepreneurial desire and drive as his father, is in the process of developing the first LEED-Certified hotel project in Chattanooga. Roshan Amin is the director of operations for the Amin management company, which operates the Staybridge Suites of Hamilton Place that opened in December 2006 creating 35 new jobs. He graduated from McCallie School and University of Georgia, Terry College of Business.

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