



**For Immediate Release
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Moore County, NC

PACE, Inc. Prepares for Significant Expansion

In just over a year's time after relocating a portion of its U.S. manufacturing operations to Moore County from the Baltimore, Maryland area, PACE, Inc. has already outgrown its current 16,000 square-foot facility in Aberdeen and is making plans to expand into a larger building.

Paul Dunham, President and COO, said at the time the company moved here in October 2005 that he hoped within 2 years, the company would be ready to expand its floor space and eventually grow to 100 employees. With the recent groundbreaking ceremony at the Southern Pines Corporate Park, it is evident that PACE is ahead of schedule and well on its way to achieving these goals.

The company is an international manufacturer of industrial soldering equipment for the rework, repair and testing of printed circuit assemblies and also manufactures Fume Extraction systems to reduce air contaminants created by hand soldering processes. It currently employs 50 people in Moore County.

November 30th marked a significant day in PACE's history as community representatives, business professionals and citizens were on hand to see project leaders break ground at the Southern Pines Corporate Park, the site for PACE's new 37,000 square-foot building. The facility will be built by Aberdeen-based O'Connor Company of NC, Inc. with occupancy anticipated by June, 2007.

In addition to Dunham, Mayor Frank Quis of Southern Pines; commercial broker Susan Clift Brown of Clift Commercial Real Estate in Southern Pines; Bob Baillie of RAB Investments, Inc., owner of the Corporate Park; and Ray Ogden, Executive Director of the economic development organization Moore County Partners in Progress were all smiles as they donned hard hats and wielded golden shovels for the event.

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PACE will be the first industry to move into the new Southern Pines Corporate Park. This 105-acre site consists of fifteen (15) industrially-zoned parcels of approximately 5 acres each, conveniently located on US Highway 1 just north of the Midland Road interchange. Throughout the Park will be carefully-preserved natural areas and walking trails to create a unique, campus-like atmosphere.

Dunham said, "It's been a real team effort with Bob Baillie, the O'Connor Company, Ray Ogden and the Town of Southern Pines to bring us to the Corporate Park as we plan for our expansion. We sincerely appreciate everyone's efforts in making PACE feel so welcome in Moore County, and we look forward to settling in next year at our new location."

PACE has been a leader in the soldering industry for 50 years and has created quality jobs and investment in Moore County. Ogden commented, "PACE is such a great company, exactly the type of business that fits in Moore County. It's very satisfying to see how much they've grown just in the short time they've been in Aberdeen. We certainly look forward to seeing them up and running in their new building."

Mayor Quis added, "Even though PACE isn't new to Moore County, I want to officially welcome them to what will be their new home in Southern Pines. We certainly hope they will continue to grow here."

Moore County Partners in Progress is the economic development organization for the County. For more information, visit www.moorebusiness.org.

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