

## **TAMCO Group and Loop Road groundbreaking lights the way for the Tradition Center for Commerce**

**Port St. Lucie/September 13** – The first ceremonial shovelful of dirt turned today by the TAMCO Group marks a major manufacturing expansion for the City Electric Supply subsidiary; it also kick-starts the long-awaited economic promise of the Tradition Center for Commerce.

TAMCO currently employs 210 workers at five locations in St. Lucie West. The company is making a \$38 million investment in a new 400,000-square-foot manufacturing and distribution facility to consolidate and expand its workforce. TAMCO, which will add at least 50 new jobs once the new plant is operating, had previously weighed a move to Dallas or Charlotte before recommitting to Port St. Lucie.



Cissy Proctor, executive director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, and Peter Antonacci, CEO of Enterprise Florida, attended the groundbreaking, along with officials from Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County and City Electric Supply's leadership team. "Florida's business-friendly environment makes our state a great place for businesses like TAMCO to grow. We are proud to see TAMCO continue to expand in Port St. Lucie and add 50 new jobs for hardworking Floridians," said Proctor.

"Growing our business in Port St. Lucie over the past 22 years has been an amazing journey for TAMCO and establishing our new facility will not only create more jobs for the local area but will also attract new talent to the Treasure Coast," said Frank McShane, co-vice president of operations.

“Enterprise Florida congratulates TAMCO Group in choosing to expand its footprint in St. Lucie County in creating 50 new jobs. These new jobs will bring more opportunity and success to families in the community,” said Antonacci.

The 36-acre site is already under construction, in conjunction with Phase One of the loop road which will enable access to over 100 acres of industrial development along the I-95 corridor within Tradition Commerce Park. The road construction was funded through a \$3 million Florida Job Growth Grant, with \$1 million provided by the Tradition Economic Development Fund. The portion of roadway which connects with TAMCO’s property will be named for City Electric Supply’s founder Tom Mackie.

“With 260 jobs paying more than our city’s average wage, a first-class manufacturing facility to anchor the Tradition Center for Commerce, and the opportunity to keep a local, established and successful company like TAMCO here at home, this is an economic development victory to celebrate and build around,” said Port St. Lucie Mayor Gregory J. Oravec. “We look forward to the completion of this new facility, TAMCO’s continuing success and the celebration of many more groundbreakings at the Tradition Center for Commerce.”

“The state-of-the-art manufacturing, order fulfillment and office workplace we are constructing will allow us to expand upon our current capabilities, creating new opportunities for TAMCO and our team members,” said Jordan McGinn, co-vice president of operations.

“This groundbreaking symbolizes that, by working together, St. Lucie County, the City of Port St. Lucie, the State of Florida and the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County were able to lock in more than 260 above-average-wage jobs for our residents. There is no doubt that St. Lucie County is open for business. We are committed to attracting and retaining jobs in our targeted industries– not just for today – but for the future,” said St. Lucie County Commission Chair Frannie Hutchinson.

“Not only will TAMCO add 50 new jobs and invest almost \$40 million in Port St. Lucie, this project kept 210 existing jobs from leaving the state,” said Pete Tesch, the president of the Economic Development Council. “St. Lucie County residents represent ninety percent of TAMCO’s existing workers so keeping these jobs here was of paramount importance. Great coordination from the city, county, state and CareerSource Research Coast kept this company, one of the largest electrical component manufacturers in the country, here in St. Lucie County.”

In addition to the TAMCO jobs, the project will also be responsible for more than 250 construction jobs during the facility's development. The general contractor, Arco Murray, has subcontracted with local firms for land clearing, utilities, paving, concrete work, plumbing, carpentry, electrical and more. Mancil's Complete Sitework of Palm City has been working on land clearing and grading since August.

The purchase of the land was facilitated by local broker Jeffrey D. Chamberlin, president of SLC Commercial Realty & Development, in collaboration with Whitebox Real Estate of Dallas, Texas.

The retention and expansion incentive package provided for TAMCO includes abatement of city and county property taxes on the new facility for five years; a reduction in taxes for an additional five years; a \$1 million offset for infrastructure costs for water, sewer, road and stormwater; impact fee reductions; a discount on development district costs; a county Job Growth Investment Grant; and a state grant from the Qualified Targeted Industry Tax Refund program based on the creation of 50 new jobs at an average wage of 115 percent of St. Lucie County's average wage.

#### **About the TAMCO Group**

The TAMCO Group, a subsidiary of City Electric Supply, is comprised of six brands of high-quality electrical products and materials, including TamLite Lighting. The company's TamLite Lighting production facilities in St. Lucie West currently employ more than 200 people. City Electric Supply is a family-owned electrical wholesale business dedicated to providing personalized service and support for customers in the residential, commercial and industrial marketplace. The company's United States network spans 28 states with over 460 branches dedicated to providing unparalleled dependability, quality and service. For more information, visit <http://www.tamcogroup.com> and <http://www.cityelectricsupply.com>.

#### **About the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County**

The EDC is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting economic vitality in St. Lucie County through the attraction, retention and expansion of businesses in the community. The EDC works in partnership with local governments and the private sector to advance its goals of creating more and better-paying jobs for residents, broadening the tax base and improving St. Lucie County's economic quality of life. Contact the EDC at 772.336.6250 or <http://www.youredc.com>.