



I N T E R N A T I O N A L

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Orchid McAllen Celebrates 10 Year Anniversary, Plans for Future Growth

McAllen, Texas – April 17, 2006 – Over the past decade, millions of tons of steel and aluminum have steadily streamed into the Orchid International McAllen plant either by truck or rail service. In that 10 year span, Orchid McAllen has been converting these raw materials into the stamped and die cast electric motor components utilized by several of the world’s largest manufacturers of electric motors used in home appliances and heating and air conditioning systems, most notably Regal Beloit and Emerson Electric.

When Orchid McAllen opened its doors in 1996, it was only the second of Orchid International’s manufacturing facilities in North America. At the time, annual sales company-wide were in the \$5 million range. Today, Orchid International operates five manufacturing facilities with annual sales totaling more than \$150 million. The 100,000 square-foot McAllen facility accounts for just over \$34 million annually.

“Our McAllen facility has been and will continue to be a tremendous asset to Orchid International,” states CEO and founder Grant Bibby. “Over the past 10 years, the facility has served as our gateway between the United States and Mexico, enabling Orchid International to service a number of manufacturers in the region. As we commemorate the numerous accomplishments of the past decade, we also want to focus our attention on plans for new growth in our McAllen facility and for the entire Orchid International organization.”

According to Steve Gruver, Co-Owner of Orchid International, the McAllen facility will soon be expanding by an additional 30,000–50,000 square feet later in 2006. A new annealing line will be installed increasing heat treating capacity for current production.

“The increase in McAllen’s square footage will also enable Orchid to begin general stamping operations for the automotive industry, a prime objective for the company that could come to fruition in 2007,” adds Gruver. “Orchid International is actively pursuing contracts with several key suppliers to the automotive industry in the region with the potential of over \$50 million in general stamping sales per year.”

Having joined Orchid International in 2005, President Richard Quinlan places a high priority on growing Orchid’s presence in McAllen and in northern Mexico. “In addition to the direct investment in equipment and plant expansion in McAllen, we are also currently pursuing several acquisitions in both Monterrey and Matamoras, Mexico directly related to electric motor lamination stamping and die casting. These acquisitions will likely translate into still greater growth for the McAllen facility in terms of sales volume and employment opportunities.”

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Orchid McAllen will be providing a catered lunch for its 145 employees on April 19 at the facility. The corporate management team including Bibby, Gruver and Quinlan will be in attendance to congratulate all employees and to acknowledge the 12 employees with 10 years of service. Those being acknowledged include: Raul Castillo, Pat Martinez, Javier Mendoza, David Espinoza, Juan Hernandez, Lynn Teats, Jose Gomez, Gloria Howe, Glademir Alaniz, Fidel Sanchez, Ricardo Valdez, Jesus Zorola.

Founded in 1988, Orchid International provides world-class metal stamping, motor lamination stamping and die casting, and assembly services to the automotive, appliance, lawn and garden and numerous other metal stamping-related industries throughout North America. Headquartered in Brentwood, Tennessee, Orchid International operates five manufacturing facilities strategically located in Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin and Ontario to service customers throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. For additional information, please contact Chris Daniel, Marketing & Communications Manager, at 615-373-7664, chrisd@orchidinternational.com or visit online at orchidinternational.com.

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