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**Subject:** Economic Development Meeting: Suominen  
**Location:** Kershaw  
**When:** 6/2/2015 3:00:00 PM - 3:45:00 PM

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**Advance:** Kenny Williamson  
(803)260-7937

**EVENT:** Suominen (Sue-OH-min-en) Announcement  
**DATE:** June 2, 2015

**TIME:** 3:00 PM

**LOCATION:** 500 Chestnut Street, Bethune, SC

**PARKING:** Enter property through guard gate. Take first right into parking area adjacent to tent area. Nina Kopola CEO, Larry Kinn SVP Operations Americas, Darryl Fournier Plant Manager will be there to greet the governor. Also, Morgan Crapps will greet the Governor's car, take the gift from Ashton and place it in the Governor's chair.

**PURPOSE:** To meet the Suominen Board of Directors and to thank the company for their investment in the state.

**LOCATION SET-UP:** An outside tent will be set up in the front of the offices at the plant, with a/c or fans as weather dictates. Event will be moved inside the plant in the case of severe weather.

**ON-SITE LOCATION CONTACT:** Darryl Fournier – Plant Manager, cell 843-314-1087, back up Linda Freeman 803-729-7791.

**SECURITY CONTACT:** Darryl Fournier – Plant Manager, cell 843-314-1087, back up Greg Robinson 803-484-1499

**PROJECT NAME:** Project Coal

**COMPANY NAME:** Suominen Corporation

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Morgan Crapps

**CITY AND COUNTY:** Bethune / Kershaw County

**JOBS NUMBER AND INVESTMENT NUMBER:** 27 jobs / 40 million investment

**SEATED ON STAGE:** Governor, CEO – Nina Kopola, Senior VP Operations Americas - Larry Kinn; Chairman of the Board Jorma Eloranta, Senator Vincent Sheheen (tentative); State Representative Jay Lucas (Tentative); Kershaw County Council Chair Julian Burns, Bethune Mayor Charles McCoy, Central SC Alliance President Mike Briggs

**KEY COMPANY PERSONS:**

1. Jorma Eloranta, (YOR-mah ELOHR-ahn-tah) Chairman of the Board of Directors

2. Risto Anttonen, (RIS-toh AHNT-toh-nen) Deputy Chair of the Board of Directors
3. Andreas Ahlstrom, (AHND-rehas AHL-strurm) Member of the Board of Directors
4. Hannu Kasurinen, (HAHN-nu KAH-su-rinen) Member of the Board of Directors
5. Laura Raitio, (LAHU-ra RYE-te-o) Member of the Board of Directors
6. Jaana Tuominen, (YAA-nah TWO-o-me-nen) Member of the Board of Directors
7. Olli Nikitin, Secretary of Suominen Board Meetings
8. Nina Kopola, (Nee-nah KO-polah ) President & CEO of Suominen
9. Tapio Engstrom, (TA-pioh ENG-strurm ) SVP & CFO of Suominen
10. Lynda Kelly, SVP, Care, Suominen
11. Larry Kinn, SVP of Operations

**NOTABLE CONFIRMED ATTENDEES:**

Senator Vincent Sheheen  
 Julian Burns, Kershaw County Council  
 Charles McCoy, Mayor of Bethune  
 John Fulmer, Bethune Town Council  
 John Heflin, Bethune Town Council  
 Don Witham, Bethune Town Council  
 Vic Carpenter, Kershaw County Administrator

**GIFT:** Brass plate to be given to be given to Jorma Eloranta, Board Chair, after the Governor finishes her remarks.

**PRESS:** Yes

**PUBLIC:** Yes

**ACCESS TO EMPLOYEES:** All site employees are invited; the lines will be shut down to allow employees to attend, off shift employees will attend as they desire.

**INTRODUCED BY:** Nina Kopola

**LENGTH OF SPEAKING:** 5 minutes

**LINE-BY-LINE:**

3:00 PM-	Welcome, Larry Kinn
3:05 PM-	Invocation, Dr. H. Mills
3:07 PM-	Announcement, Nina Kopola and Jorma Eloranta
3:17 PM-	Remarks, Governor Nikki Haley
3:22 PM-	Remarks, Vincent Sheheen
3:27 PM-	Remarks, Mike Briggs, Central SC Alliance
3:32 PM-	Remarks, Charles McCoy, Mayor
3:37 PM-	Remarks, Julian Burns, Kershaw County
3:45 PM-	Closing Remarks, Larry Kinn

**HISTORY OF COMMUNICATION:** The Governor met with Nina Kopola, CEO and Larry Kinn, SVP of Operations in her office in January 2015.

**COMPANY OVERVIEW:** Suominen was founded in 1767.

**FINANCIALS**

- The company had net sales of \$437 million during fiscal year 2014.

**DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

- Suominen manufactures nonwovens offers nonwovens as roll goods for various wiping applications, including baby and toddlers; make-up and beauty products; personal hygiene; household; items and gadgets, such as cars, garden furniture, and golf clubs; professional workplaces; and flushable and

- dispersible products, as well as for medical and hygiene products.
- Suominen is the world's largest manufacturer of nonwovens used in wiping products.
- Suominen operates through two business areas: Convenience and Care. Flexibles business area was divested in July 2014.
- Paper product maker Ahlstrom owns about a third of Suominen after selling its wipes fabrics business to its fellow Finn in 2011.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA OPERATIONS**

- Suominen Nonwovens acquired Ahlstrom Corporation's Bethune, SC operation in November 2011. In January 2015, the company announced plans to expand the Bethune facility to include a manufacturing line.

## **EMPLOYEES**

- Suominen's nearly 600 employees serve customers on three continents.

## **LOCATIONS**

- The company is headquartered in Helsinki, Finland. The company has operations in Europe and the Americas

## **SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS:**

- It's always a great day in South Carolina when we can celebrate the success of one of our existing companies.
- And a \$40 million investment and 27 new jobs in Bethune is something we can all be proud of.
- South Carolina's world class workforce and positive business climate have made our state the ideal location for industry.
- As a result, the manufacturing sector in our state continues to thrive and businesses like Suominen continue to expand.
- Suominen also thrives in South Carolina because we share similar values.
- This is a company driven by constant improvement in processes and efficiency and that's what we do in South Carolina.
- We are always improving and always looking for ways to improve.
- As we said in the beginning when Suominen opened its facility here, the State of South Carolina will be with you for the long run.
- And today's expansion announcement proves that is true – we were with you in the beginning, we're here with you today, and we will continue that support as long as you're in South Carolina.
- Suominen's decision to expand its Palmetto State operations is a big win for our entire state.
- I look forward to seeing the positive impact this company and these new jobs will have on our community.