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## NIKKI R. HALEY

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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For immediate release  
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### **STARTEK Inc. Selects Horry County For Customer Support Center** *\$10 Million Investment Expected To Support Up To 665 Jobs*

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – STARTEK Inc., a global provider of business process outsourcing services, today announced plans to locate a new customer support center in the Myrtle Beach area. The company's investment of \$10 million is expected to create as many as 665 new jobs over a five-year period and result in an annual economic impact exceeding \$45 million, according to studies by economists at Coastal Carolina University.

STARTEK Inc. will lease a new 50,000 square-foot-facility being built at Towne Center in the fast-growing Carolina Forest section of Horry County. During construction of the facility, the company will operate and conduct employee training in a temporary space provided by Horry-Georgetown Technical College's Grand Strand Campus. Completion of the new facility is scheduled for fall 2014.

"Our continued growth and as our entry into the healthcare industry were all factors in our decision to choose Myrtle Beach for our new expansion. The workforce, the welcoming business climate, and the location matched our requirements," said Chad Carlson, president and CEO of STARTEK. "The local and state authorities have been great to work with and we look forward to a great partnership with the Palmetto State."

Factors that contributed to the company's site location decision included the quantity and quality of the area workforce, proximity to training resources at Horry-Georgetown Technical College, telecommunications infrastructure in the area and the quality of life in the Myrtle Beach area.

"The best resource we have here in South Carolina is our people, which is why we excel in delivering quality customer service," said Gov. Nikki Haley. "Today we celebrate STARTEK's decision to invest \$10 million and create more than 600 new jobs along the Grand Strand."

Since January 2011, South Carolina has recruited more than \$1.1 billion in capital investment and 10,600 jobs in the service industry.

"South Carolina is known the world over for our hospitality, so companies in the service industry see our

state as a natural fit,” said Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt. “We welcome STARTEK to the area and appreciate their commitment to invest in our state.”

The announcement is the result of a collaborative effort among multiple representatives on the local, regional and state level, including the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, Horry County Council, TCP Capital LLC, Santee Cooper, Horry Telephone Company, Horry Georgetown Technical College, the North Eastern Strategic Alliance (NESA) and readySC.

"I can't think of a better way to end the 2013 calendar year for the MBREDC than to celebrate the decision of STARTEK to locate a large customer service center here in our community," said Fred Richardson, chairman of the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation.

"The hard work of all the EDC's allies and partners is generating significant results."

"We have worked tirelessly and have pulled all of our resources together to make this project possible," said Mark Lazarus, Horry County Council Chairman. "With over 600 new jobs, the economic impact of this project is of regional and statewide significance. This is a huge win for Horry County, and it is very exciting to be a part of it."

The company will begin hiring team members next month. Those interested in employment opportunities with STARTEK Inc. should visit <http://www.STARTEK.com/careers> to apply.

#### **About STARTEK Inc.:**

*STARTEK is a comprehensive contact center and business process outsourcing service company with approximately 11,200 employees, we call Brand Warriors who for over 25 years have been committed to making a positive impact on our clients' business results. Our mission is to enable and empower our Brand Warriors to promote our clients' brands every day and bring value to our stakeholders. We accomplish this by aligning with our clients' business objectives resulting in a trusted partnership. For more information visit [www.STARTEK.com](http://www.STARTEK.com).*

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