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**Date:** 12/22/2015 9:09:29 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Test Message - The Okonite Company Expanding Midlands Operations

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To be released at 9:50

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From: SC Gov News [mailto:govnews@gov.sc.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:09 AM  
To: Symmes, Brian  
Subject: Test Message - The Okonite Company Expanding Midlands Operations

December 22, 2015  
For immediate release  
Contact: Brian Symmes, 803-673-9437  
BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov

## **The Okonite Company Expanding Midlands Operations**

### ***Company Investing \$19.5 Million To Expand Orangeburg County Facility***

**COLUMBIA, S.C. –** [The Okonite Company](#), a premier manufacturer of high-quality, insulated electric wire and cable, is expanding its existing operations in Orangeburg County. The company is investing \$19.5 million in the project.

Established in 1878 and headquartered in Ramsey, N.J., The Okonite Company primarily manufactures cables that range from 300V to 345kV insulated products. With six manufacturing facilities, the company serves a multitude of industrial markets, such as electric utility, oil and gas, chemical, railroad, pulp and paper and transit. Additionally, The Okonite Company provides cables to a variety of other industrial customers, including hospitals, colleges, military bases, water treatment plants and data centers.

To accommodate increased customer demand and position the firm for future growth, The Okonite Company has decided to expand its existing Orangeburg County facilities, which are situated on 122 acres at 2276 Rowesville Road in Orangeburg, S.C. Along with adding one new insulating line and two new rewind packing lines, the company will be expanding its rewind building by 12,600 square-feet and its manufacturing building by 49,000 square-feet. The project is expected to be completed in October 2016.

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development has approved job development credits related to the project. For more information on The Okonite Company, visit [www.okonite.com](http://www.okonite.com).

## **QUOTES**

“This expansion will give The Okonite Company additional capacity to allow for incremental increases in future business conditions. It will also posture us for future growth in both manning and equipment at our Orangeburg County facilities.” –The Okonite Company Orangeburg Plant Manager Tom Sanchez

“Team South Carolina’s commitment to workforce training and creating a business-friendly environment continues to result in new companies locating here and our existing companies expanding here. The Okonite Company’s \$19.5 million investment shows that our state is open for business, and we look forward to seeing this great company continue to grow and thrive here for many years to come.” –Gov. Nikki Haley

“Team South Carolina has cultivated a positive business environment throughout our state, allowing firms like The Okonite Company to grow and thrive. This expansion is a big win for our Midlands region, and I’m excited to watch The Okonite Company continue to prosper here.” –Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt

“We greatly appreciate Okonite and the continued investment in Orangeburg County. Orangeburg County and Okonite are both striving to provide the citizens of Orangeburg County a better life by creating quality jobs. With a great company like Okonite, Orangeburg County is destined to have many more great days. We are truly grateful for Okonite’s investment in our community and are very thankful this time of year that they are part of the fabric of our community.” –Orangeburg County Council Chairman Johnnie Wright

“We are pleased to see that the Okonite Company has continued to expand and invest in our community. Companies of this stature are the backbone of America and we are truly appreciative to be a part of their continued growth. We wish them further success and look forward to building upon an already strong and healthy partnership.” –City of Orangeburg Mayor Michael Butler

“The Okonite Company continues to demonstrate tremendous commitment to Orangeburg County and we support their efforts in every way that we can. What a wonderful end to a productive year in industrial development for Orangeburg County. Okonite has played a significant role in our 60-year history as a Development Commission and we simply say Thank you and wish them continued growth and success.” –Orangeburg County Development Commission Chairman Ken Middleton

“Today’s expansion announcement of \$19.5 million demonstrates The Okonite Company’s leadership and workforce team continue to thrive in Orangeburg County and in the Central SC Region. We congratulate Team South Carolina, the Midlands Community and Orangeburg County.” –Central S.C. Alliance Chairman Mike Brenan

## FIVE FAST FACTS

- The Okonite Company is expanding operations in Orangeburg County.
- \$19.5 million investment.
- Established in 1878, The Okonite Company is headquartered in Ramsey, N.J.
- The company is expanding its existing Orangeburg County facilities, which are situated on 122 acres at 2276 Rowesville Road in Orangeburg, S.C.
- Those interested in applying should visit the firm’s career [opportunities page online](#).

### ***About The Okonite Company:***

*Okonite is a premier US manufacturer of high quality insulated electric wire and cable, specializing in high voltage cable (up to 345kV), medium voltage cables (from 5 to 35kV) and low voltage power, control and instrumentation cables. For more information on The Okonite Company, visit [www.okonite.com](http://www.okonite.com).*

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