

From: S.C. Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>
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Subject: KION North America expanding operations in the Lowcountry

- NEWS RELEASE -

For Immediate Release
February 2, 2017

KION North America expanding operations in the Lowcountry *Volvo supplier investing \$5.7 million in Dorchester County*

COLUMBIA, S.C. - **KION North America**, a member of KION Group AG, which is one of the world's largest manufacturers of industrial trucks, will be expanding its Dorchester County operations. To accommodate increased customer demand, KION will be investing \$5.7 million in its existing operations, creating more than 50 new jobs over the next five years.

Included among its customers is Volvo Cars, which is in the process of establishing manufacturing operations in Berkeley County. KION will provide material handling equipment for the facility and will supply and service a fleet of forklifts, reach trucks and VNA (very narrow aisle) trucks.

Headquartered at 2450 West 5th Street in Summerville, S.C., the company's Dorchester County expansion will allow it to increase its production capacity from 3,000 units per year in 2015 to approximately 12,000 units per year by 2020. For more information on KION North America, visit www.kion-na.com.

QUOTES

"We are proud to offer the most innovative technology in the material handling industry, especially to one of the most innovative players in the automotive industry, who happens to be right in our own backyard." -President and CEO of KION North America Vincent Halma

"This agreement is monumental. Not only are two global premium manufacturers teaming up, but more importantly, two South Carolina businesses. This further validates the state's position as a manufacturing giant." -KION North America Vice President of Sales Mike Gore

"In South Carolina, we have all of the tools in place to remain a leader in the global automotive industry. Because of our exceptional workforce, positive business environment and unmatched infrastructure assets, companies like KION North America are finding success here and will continue to drive our economy forward." -Gov. Henry McMaster

"Today, we're excited to celebrate another big win for South Carolina's robust automotive sector. When companies like KION North America decide to invest more in our state and grow their footprint here, it shows that what we're doing is working. I look forward to watching KION and our entire automotive sector continue to thrive here for many years to come." -Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt

"We are excited about KION expanding in our county. It is always a substantial validation of our county's hard work, leadership and partnership when a great local company like KION,

that has been a valuable local partner for years in our county, decides to expand their operations here in our backyard. I want to thank our economic development staff as well as the leadership at KION for their investment and commitment to our community. Together, we will continue to make Dorchester County a great place to live, work and play." -
Dorchester County Council Chairman Jay Byars

FIVE FAST FACTS

- KION North America is expanding its Dorchester County operations.
- \$5.7 million investment to create more than 50 new jobs.
- KION North America is a member of the KION Group AG, which is one of the world's largest manufacturers of industrial trucks.
- The company will supply Volvo Cars' Berkeley County factory with state-of-the-art material handling equipment.
- For more information on KION North America, visit www.kion-na.com.

About S.C. Department of Commerce

As South Carolina's leading economic development agency, the Department of Commerce works to recruit new businesses and help existing business grow. Commerce has recruited world-class companies to South Carolina such as BMW, Boeing, Continental, Giti Tire, LPL Financial Holdings, Mercedes-Benz Vans, Toray and Volvo Cars and also supports startups, small and existing business, innovation and rural development initiatives. Commerce partners with the [S.C. Technical College System](#) via [readySC](#) to support workforce training and recruiting, and with the [S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce](#), which provides worker training and employment opportunities within the state. IBM-Plant Location International reports in 2012, 2013 and 2015 ranked South Carolina first in the nation for attracting jobs through foreign investment. The state won the Gold Shovel Award and the Project of Year Award from Area Development magazine in 2012, 2014 and 2015. For more information, visit www.SCcommerce.com.

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