

Remarks of Loren Hill, High Point EDC
High Point City Council public hearing for HAECO
July 20, 2015

I'm Loren Hill, President of the High Point Economic Development Corporation.

Senior Vice President Sandy Dunbeck and I are pleased to bring you a project by **HAECO Americas / TIMCO Aerosystems**.

- The company is an important part of the Piedmont Triad's ever-growing aviation cluster. In our region, HAECO has facilities on the grounds of Piedmont Triad International Airport and in the Town of Wallburg.
- The company is a full-service provider of airframe maintenance, repair and overhaul, line services, engine repair, and aerospace manufactured products – to serve a broad array of commercial, government, and military customers.

The company is considering buying the 250,000-square foot building located at **8010 Piedmont Triad Parkway**.

- The building has been empty for approximately 18 months and is the largest vacant building in High Point.
- The building was previously a TE Connectivity facility and, before that, Tyco Electronics and AMP, Inc.

If the company picks High Point, HAECO would create **147 jobs** over a five-year period at the new facility.

- The average wage of those jobs – technicians, engineers, and support staff – would be **approximately \$60,000**.
- Almost **400 employees** would work in the building, since 252 workers would also be transferred there.
- In that proposed High Point building, the company would locate its aircraft engineering and aircraft interiors manufacturing operations.
- In addition to buying the building, the company anticipates adding **\$5.75 million** to High Point's tax base – through building renovations, new equipment, and equipment relocated to this proposed location. The legal notice for this public hearing mentioned the company investing \$11.35 million in this project, and that figure included the purchase of this building.

The City Council is being asked to consider a request from HAECO Americas to authorize performance-based incentives. If the company meets all of the benchmarks outlined in a performance agreement, it could receive up to **\$147,000** in installment payments over a three-year period.

- The Guilford County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on this project on August 6 to consider authorizing performance-based incentives, also in the amount of \$147,000.
- In addition, the State of North Carolina is considering participating in this project.

We expect that the company will make its location decision within the next two months.

Company officials understand that if High Point performance-based incentives are authorized – per our incentives policies – there are two special provisions the company would need to follow:

1. HAECO would need to hold a job fair in High Point to help with the City’s goal to employ as many High Pointers as possible. Working on the job fair with our office and the company would be our NC Works allies – what we used to know as JobLink, the Guilford Workforce Board, and the state Employment Security office.
2. For this facility, HAECO would need to use a High Point post office box address and would need to publicly and officially refer to this facility as a High Point business – since this building is in a part of High Point that has another city’s street address.

I’m pleased now to introduce HAECO’s vice president of government and industry relations ... **Kip Blakely**. Kip will tell you about the company and this exciting project.