



# Joint Industrial Development Authority

of Wythe County, Wytheville & Rural Retreat

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## PRESS RELEASE

### DIVERSIFIED MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS SUPPORTS WYTHE COMPANIES

WYTHEVILLE—Diversified Manufacturing Solutions, Inc., a Wytheville-based start-up contract manufacturer, provides a local outsourcing option to Wythe County manufacturers. While labor-intensive manufacturing operations have continued to move away from the United States, DMS offers an alternative approach to companies in the Wytheville area who may be forced to reduce costs of labor-intensive manufacturing operations in their facilities. The privately held corporation, incorporated in 2003 with primary ownership by Amy Shelton and Randy Shelton, reduces production costs by removing many of the overhead expenses of their customers. Prior experience in the temporary services sector and other human resource management activities by the principals have allowed DMS to focus on the labor-intensive side of manufacturing. Although their wages are higher than most off-shore options, savings of shipping costs, timeliness, and efficient communications allow DMS to compete effectively in this sector. The company, currently operating from facilities in Fairview Industrial Park, employs approximately 65 people and provides services for several local manufacturers. DMS has also attracted business from other states that might well have moved out of the country.

"We appreciate how DMS is keeping jobs in our community," Alan Hawthorne, Executive Director of the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County, said. "The alternative in many communities has been for facilities to close and move their operations off-shore leaving only unemployed workers behind. DMS provides basic employment in addition to offering an excellent resume-building opportunity to individuals in initial or transitional situations as they acquire skills and experience for higher-paying positions."

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