



Joint Industrial Development Authority

of Wythe County, Wytheville & Rural Retreat

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PRESS RELEASE

LOCAL COMPANY SERVES AS INCUBATOR

WYTHEVILLE—Wytheville Technologies, Inc. (Wythe-Tech), the first industry to locate in Progress Park, has taken on a new role in addition to the manufacturing of automotive steering and suspension components: that of being an incubator for other small Japanese automotive component manufacturers. Currently, Wythe-Tech has two additional start-up companies operating under the same roof.

The first, Atsumi Car Equipment (ACE), of Hamamatsu, Japan, began operations at the Wythe-Tech facility in February of this year and currently employs 11 people. ACE manufactures wheel hub components for Toyota and other auto manufacturers.

The second, Brewer Automotive Components, Inc. (BAC) of Brewer, Maine, started its Wytheville operations in September, and currently employs 14 people. BAC's Wytheville operation makes steering rack ends for Toyota and other auto manufacturers.

Combined, Wythe-Tech, ACE and BAC employ 37 people and have invested more than \$8.5 million. These totals are expected to grow to 56 employees and \$13.1 million investment by the summer of 2003.

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