

For Immediate Release  
April 13, 2017

## **Scout Boats expanding Dorchester County operations**

*Product line expansion bringing 370 new jobs and more than \$10 million investment*

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – Scout Boats, a designer and manufacturer of luxury coastal fishing boats, is expanding its existing Dorchester County operations. The company is adding multiple new boat models to its product catalog, bringing \$10.9 million of capital investment and creating 370 new jobs.

Founded in 1989 and headquartered in Summerville, S.C., Scout Boats designs and manufactures a wide variety of luxury coastal fishing boats, including center console, dual console and bay boat models. Ranging from 17 feet to 53 feet lengths, Scout Boats' products can be found in more than 70 dealers across the nation and the world.

Located at 2351 Highway 78 West in Summerville, S.C., the expansion includes a new 120,000-square-foot facility, designed to accommodate the company's new 53-foot yacht model. Hiring for the new positions has already begun, and interested applicants should visit the company's [careers page online](#).

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development has approved job development credits related to this project. A \$350,000 Set Aside grant was also awarded to Dorchester County for road improvements associated with this project.

### **QUOTES**

"We've been a long-standing boat builder and employer in South Carolina over the past three decades. From our humble beginnings to now one of the most respected and innovative boat builders in the industry, we are proud of our heritage and excited about our future. We couldn't be where we are today without them or the support of our state. We're excited about our future plans, as well as providing an incredible place to work for our current and future workforce here in Summerville." –**Scout Boats Founder and CEO Steve Potts**

"South Carolina's economy continues to grow with great companies like Scout Boats investing in our state and our people. Our state's manufacturing industry is one of the most important forces driving our economy, and that's because our skilled workforce has proven that it's better than any other in the world." –**Gov. Henry McMaster**

"We would like to congratulate Scout Boats for their tremendous investment in Dorchester County and in the State of South Carolina. The Palmetto State has been leading the way in manufacturing for some time now, and announcements from homegrown companies like this one ensure that South Carolina will continue to stay on top." –**Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt**

“We are very excited about the significant expansion of Scout Boats in Dorchester County, which is not their first since arriving in 1989. They are a major reason that Dorchester County has been named ‘the boat building capital of South Carolina.’ Scout is a locally-grown company committed to their community and their employees. Their technological innovation and new line of boats will be manufactured for clients all over the world, and we are very excited to witness their continued success.” **–Dorchester County Council Chairman Jay Byars**

#### **FIVE FAST FACTS**

- **Scout Boats** is expanding its Dorchester County operations.
- **\$10.9 million investment to create 370 new jobs.**
- Headquartered in Summerville, S.C., **Scout Boats is a designer and manufacturer of luxury boats.**
- The company will be constructing a **new 120,000-square-foot facility to house its new 53-foot yacht model product line.**
- Hiring for the new positions has already begun, and interested applicants should visit the company’s [careers page online](#).

#### *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. In three of five years, IBM-Plant Location International reports ranked South Carolina first in the nation for attracting jobs through foreign investment, per capita. 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](http://www.SCcommerce.com).*

#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Adrienne R. Fairwell, APR  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
South Carolina Department of Commerce  
(803) 737-1998  
[afairwell@sccommerce.com](mailto:afairwell@sccommerce.com)  
[www.SCcommerce.com](http://www.SCcommerce.com)

-###-