

MEMORANDUM

June 17, 2002

TO: Governor

FROM: John

RE: Hart & Cooley announcement

This event is to recognize Hart & Cooley's selection of their Olive Branch facility as the site for its consolidated production and distribution of flexible air duct. The company is the nation's leading producer of residential registers, grills, diffusers and gas venting and chimney systems.

In November 2001, the company purchased American Metal Products and their facility in Olive Branch. This facility has been completely converted and will produce gas venting, flexible air duct and gutter protection systems.

Hart & Cooley is also renting a 120,000 square foot building to house its mid-South distribution center.

With help from the state, Hart & Cooley is maintaining about 80 jobs in the old American Metal Products facility and creating another 300 new jobs.

Others at the ceremony will include Mayor Sam Rikard of Olive Branch; Jessie Medlin, president of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors; and Jim Flanagan, president of the DeSoto County Economic Development Council.

Hart & Cooley has other facilities in Alabama, California, Michigan, Tennessee, Texas and Mexico. They employ about 2,000 workers.