



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **GORDON FOOD SERVICE® TO ESTABLISH DISTRIBUTION CENTER AT THE MATRIX**

**(GREENVILLE COUNTY, SC)** The Greenville Area Development Corporation announced today that **Gordon Food Service** will establish a new 120,000 ft<sup>2</sup> distribution operation at the Matrix in Greenville County. Initially, the company will purchase and expand the Matrix's 82,000 sf speculative building on a 30 acre site located on the corner of the Matrix Boulevard and Old Grove Road. With its start-up planned for early 2007, GFS' first year employment is expected to be 50 new jobs with significant employment growth over the next 5 years.

Gordon Food Service, founded in 1897, is North America's largest family-owned and managed broad line foodservice distributor. GFS is a multi-billion-dollar international corporation offering more than 15,000 GFS and nationally branded specialty and exclusive products to over 45,000 customers in 10 states within the U.S. and throughout Canada. The company also operates 115 GFS Marketplace retail stores.

"We are excited to expand our distribution network into the fast growing southeast region, linking our northern and southern distribution areas. This will provide even greater consistency of service for many of our key multi-unit customers with operations in this area," said Dan Gordon, President of Gordon Food Service.

"Gordon Food Service's plan to open operations in Greenville is another sign that our efforts to better the state's business climate are paying dividends," Gov. Sanford said. "This administration remains committed to recruiting sustainable companies that will not only create new jobs but also help raise income levels for our citizens."

"We congratulate Dan Gordon on his choice of Greenville for the location of his company's first southeastern distribution center and welcome Gordon Food Service to the South Carolina business community," said Secretary of Commerce Joe Taylor. "Greenville County makes a great location for a distribution center with its close proximity to multiple interstates, its committed workforce and wonderful quality of life and we think GFS made a good business decision that will help it continue to grow."

Butch Kirven, Greenville County Council Chairman said, "Greenville is honored to be the newest home of a 109 year old family owned business that places value on its customers and employees. We welcome GFS to the county and extend open arms."

"GFS's decision to build in The Matrix Business & Technology Park shows their commitment and desire to enter into a market that is driven by economic development; they will be an asset to the county and an even greater asset to employable citizens," said Judy Gilstrap, Member of the Board of the Greenville County Research & Technological Development Corporation, (also know as the Matrix Business & Technology Park), and Vice-Chair of Greenville County Council.

"This announcement is a perfect demonstration of how all of our economic development organizations play a key role in winning projects for our community. The Upstate Alliance generated this lead and delivered it to the 10 counties of the Upstate, and the GADC closed the deal," said Hal Johnson, President & CEO of the Upstate South Carolina Alliance. "Congratulations to all involved. This is a great win for the Upstate."

For more information, visit the company's website at [www.gfs.com](http://www.gfs.com).

*The Greenville Area Development Corporation is a non-profit organization established by Greenville County Council to promote and enhance the economic growth and development of Greenville County.*