



NEWS RELEASE

For Release October 3, 2012

Contact: Tony Smith, 864.235.2008
tonysmith@greenvillecounty.org

MAPAL, Inc. Cuts A New Path, Expands Operations to Greenville, SC *German-owned tooling company brings jobs, investment South*

GREENVILLE, SC, October 3, 2012— MAPAL, Inc., a global leader and innovator in the tooling industry, today announced plans to establish a new North American production facility in Greenville County. The roughly \$3 million investment is expected to generate over 30 new jobs over the next three years, and reflects the company's rapid growth serving customers, many of them manufacturers in the aerospace, automotive, medical equipment, consumer goods and energy industries.

"Our mission is to provide outstanding customer service, operational excellence, and rapid delivery to support manufacturing customers in the aerospace, automotive, energy and general industry arenas," said Donald Lynch, vice president of finance for MAPAL Inc. "We are extremely pleased to establish our new operations here in Fountain Inn in Greenville County, and very appreciative for the support and leadership of the Greenville Area Development Corporation, readySC, South Carolina Department of Commerce, and others who assisted in making this announcement a reality."

The American arm of Germany-based MAPAL, MAPAL Inc. has served the US and Canadian metal cutting industries from a technologically advanced manufacturing facility near Detroit, Michigan, where MAPAL engineers, manufactures and services tooling with guide pads, brazed PCD (polycrystalline diamond) tooling and carbide round tools with some of the most precisely engineered geometries available.

The company will locate its new facility in approximately 27,000 square feet in Fountain Inn at 110 Valley View Road. The company expects to begin operations at the facility in December of this year, with upfitting of the space and launch team recruiting already underway.

For over 50 years, MAPAL has pioneered design innovations in the tooling industry, with companies around the world depending on MAPAL to design special tools customized to exacting specifications. The company, with nearly 4,000 associates around the globe, is

recognized for designing tools that satisfy incredibly tight tolerances, solve machining challenges and improve overall processes.

The expansion to South Carolina allows MAPAL to “add capabilities and enhance responsiveness to our regional customers, particularly in the areas of regrinds and equipment sharpening,” said Lynch. “We see tremendous opportunity to grow our business in the Southeast, and to create quality jobs here in response to growing demand for advanced tooling and grinding applications.”

MAPAL considered numerous other locations in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee before selecting Greenville for the new operation, Lynch noted, citing proximity to customers, quality and availability of skilled workforce, and training and site location assistance from state and local officials as key to choosing Greenville.

MAPAL is currently working with readySC in the recruiting and training of master machinists and apprentices. All positions being recruited for pay “highly competitive market wages with full benefits based on experience,” he added.

Since January 2011, South Carolina has recruited more than \$7 billion in capital investment and more than 17,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector.

“MAPAL is a wonderful example of an international company that is using world-class technologies and lean processes to expand their brand right here in the Upstate,” said Chris Riley, Chairman of the Greenville Area Development Corporation. “The company is an entrepreneurial business with innovative processes and rapid growth potential, and is a wonderful example of the opportunity to be found here in Greenville County.”

For more information about MAPAL, contact Mary Gilbert, Human Resource Manager at mary.gilbert@us.mapal.com or visit them at www.mapal.us.

###

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. Since its founding in 2001, GADC efforts have resulted in the creation of more than 15,000 new jobs and more than \$2.6 billion in capital investment in Greenville County, SC. To learn more, visit www.goGADC.com or call (864) 235-2008.