

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kirchner Konstruktionen Chooses Greenville County for U.S. Headquarters

Addition of automotive industry innovator promotes the Upstate's market leadership position

GREENVILLE, SC – September 14, 2015 – The Greenville Area Development Corporation (GADC), the County-chartered organization tasked with advancing the area's economic growth, announced today that [Kirchner Konstruktionen GmbH](#) (Kirchner), a German company that specializes in the planning, design, simulation and commissioning of equipment for the automotive sector, is establishing its first U.S. operations in Greenville County under the name Kirchner Design Inc. The company is investing more than \$1 million in the project, creating 30 new jobs over the next five years.

Kirchner utilizes a blend of expertise in computer-aided design (CAD) software to design specialized equipment solutions and on-site robot programming, which ultimately automate production lines. CAD software replaces manual drafting with an automated process, and it includes the use of popular 3D programs. In the automotive industry, CAD software is used to improve efficiency and sustainability of operations. Automakers have a desire to achieve full integration between the various functions, and CAD software has a critical role in continuous improvement.

"The Upstate region is home to more than 7,000 automotive jobs and more than \$3 Billion in investment – our global reputation in the automotive industry is continuously getting stronger," said GADC President and CEO Mark Farris. "The GADC is responsible for promoting the infrastructure in place that can help global companies looking to expand their operations. When we spoke with Kirchner, it became clear that operations in the Upstate presented the most effective and cost-efficient path to success."

Kirchner's Upstate operations will be located in downtown Greenville in the historic Kent Court Building located at 25 East Court Street. Hiring for new positions is in progress, and those interested in joining the Kirchner team should visit the [company's careers page online](#).

"Kirchner was keen to learn more about Greenville County's relationship with iconic automotive organizations BMW and Michelin," said Greenville County Council Chairman Dr. Bob Taylor. "In those discussions, it became clear that the Upstate offered the most strategic venue to establish its first U.S. headquarters, and we look forward to working with Kirchner to ensure it is a success."

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“Kirchner is certainly a leader in the automotive industry; but more importantly, they are a technology innovator,” added GADC Chairman Dick Wilkerson. “Kirchner will bring the type of high-tech job opportunities that excite the local workforce.”

About Kirchner Konstruktionen GmbH

Kirchner Konstruktionen GmbH, which was built in 1990, has established over 25 years competence in planning, developing, design, simulation and commissioning of equipment in the automotive sector. Kirchner operates subsidiaries in Sindelfingen, Bremen, Dresden and owns 50 percent share of T-Mech in Trencin. Kirchner Konstruktionen GmbH has been certified according to DIN EN ISO 9001:2008 since 1998. For more information, visit www.kirchner-kon.de.

About The Greenville Area Development Corporation

The Greenville Area Development Corporation is a nonprofit 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 18,500 new jobs and more than \$3 billion in capital investment in Greenville County, SC. To learn more, visit www.goGADC.com or call 864-235-2008.

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