

Air Motion Systems Breaks Ground

Company will relocate from Colorado

On January 16th, Air Motion Systems (AMS), the leading North American manufacturer of high performance ultra violet (UV) systems for the printing and packaging industries, conducted its ceremonial groundbreaking on a 35,000 square foot headquarters in Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park (River Falls, Wisconsin).

AMS is currently located in Arvada, Colorado and will relocate to River Falls later this year. The facility is located on a six acre site in Whitetail Ridge, a city-owned business campus located along State Highway 35 in River Falls. The site can accommodate another 30,000 square feet of space. AMS currently employs around 35 people, including mechanical engineers, electro engineers, and skilled assemblers. Several associates from Colorado will follow the company to River Falls.



(l to r) Business partners Hans Ulland and Steve Metcalf of Air Motion Systems pose by a construction sign during the January 16th ceremonial groundbreaking Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park (River Falls, Wisconsin). Photo Credit Elliot Architects

The facility was designed by Hudson-based Elliot Architects, www.elliottarchitects.com. New Richmond-based Derrick Companies, www.derrickbuilt.com, is the general contractor. AMS and the project team are pursuing the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. LEED is a voluntary, consensus-based national rating system for developing high performance, sustainable buildings. LEED addresses all building types and emphasizes state-of-the-art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resource selection, and indoor environmental quality. If AMS achieves the LEED certification, it will be the first office-production facility in St. Croix County with the designation.

The UV systems manufactured by AMS have application in the printing, packaging, and converting industries. Ultra Violet curing is the fastest growing segment of the print market. AMS works with printing companies as well as original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). AMS sources almost 100 percent of their primary components from North America.

Financing was arranged by Mainstreet Bank (Hudson office) www.localbankers.com, through a Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 loan, in conjunction with Wisconsin Business Development Finance Corporation (WBD) www.wbd.org. The City of River Falls provided Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) incentives for AMS, and a supplemental loan for the regional loan fund has been approved. AMS is also a candidate for state tax credits under the Technology Zone program.

AMS was founded in 1997. Stephen J. Metcalf of rural River Falls serves as president and CEO. Metcalf and his business partner Hans Ulland are majority owners of the company.



Community leaders, including Mayor Don Richards and River Falls EDC directors, joined Air Motion Systems and their architect and general contractor (Elliot Architects and Derrick Companies) for the ceremonial groundbreaking on January 16th. Photo credit: Elliot Architects

For more information, go to www.airmotionsystems.com.