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Boatright Companies makes plans for second crosstie plant

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Boatright Companies is finalizing plans to begin construction on a second crosstie mill in the Alabama community of Carbon Hill. The new plant will be operated by Boatright Railroad Products, one of Boatright's five subsidiaries, which also produces crossties at its Montevallo, Ala., location.

Boatright Railroad Products supplied the rail industry with 1.2 million ties in 2008, and the Carbon Hill plant will increase Boatright's production by one third once open in 2010.

Boatright will invest \$25 million in the Carbon Hill plant and employ as many as 40 people. The 30-acre future site of the plant is located adjacent to a Burlington Northern line and near Corridor X – the future Interstate 22 connecting Memphis, Tenn., and Birmingham, Ala.

Shane Boatright, CEO of Boatright Companies, said a selling point for the site was the community's dire need for new industry and the city's enthusiasm about the project. Boatright will take over a 500,000-square-foot steel and concrete facility once used by coal miner Drummond Co. that has been vacant for nearly 18 years. Carbon Hill lost its last employer in 1993 when the local garment factory was moved overseas.

"As a corporation, we work to become a part of the communities where we operate," Boatright said. "We can help the community create jobs while expanding our business and improving our ability to meet customer demand."

For more information about Boatright Companies, visit www.boatrightcompanies.com.

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