



**For Immediate Release April 15, 2011**

**TURBOCOATING CORP. USA ANNOUNCES 110 NEW JOBS  
AND \$15,000,000 IN INVESTMENT IN HICKORY**

**HICKORY** – Turbocoating Corp. USA, a European market leader in coatings for the gas turbine industry, has chosen to locate their first US operation in Hickory, Catawba County. The company will locate a manufacturing operation in the Catawba Industrial Commons in Hickory, creating 110 new jobs with an annual average wage of over \$50,000 and investing \$15 million over the next 5 years. This Hickory manufacturing facility will provide specialized services for parts used in the gas turbine engines produced by Siemens, GE, Alstom and Rolls Royce. The location of Turbocoating in Hickory further reinforces the Charlotte region as an energy hub.

Turbocoating Corp. USA plans a 10-year lease of 60,000 square feet in the Catawba Industrial Commons. Turbocoating will invest \$15 million in building up-fit and equipment. While the salaries will vary from position to position, the 110 new jobs to be created will have an average salary of over \$50,000 a year, excluding the benefits package.

The announcement was made possible, in part, by a \$110,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. Local incentives will be based on job creation and investment performance standards and will be considered in public session at a later date.

Turbocoating, a subsidiary of Turbocoating S.p.A., is headquartered in Parma Italy and manufactures after-machining processes such as thermal barrier coatings, laser drilling and brazing for components used in industrial gas turbines. Turbocoating is part of United Coatings Group including sector-focused independent companies that provide services for turbine engines and biomedical coatings as well as manufacture coating equipment. During their 35 years in the coating industry, they have evolved into high process automation.

“Turbocoating is a company that is able to offer our customers a complete solution,” said Nelso Antolotti, President of Turbocoating. “We are able to offer machines that apply coatings by our sister company Artec, or to provide coating, laser drilling and brazing services for their products. We are proud to become part of such an engineering and manufacturing focused community and workforce. We are looking forward to working with the people of Catawba County and Hickory.”

“We are excited about the 110 jobs and the new investment Turbocoating will create,” said Kitty Barnes, Chair of the Catawba County Commissioners. “Turbocoating’s highly automated process will

offer a diversified manufacturing opportunity for our workers and further our energy-sector tie-in to Charlotte.”

“Today we add another advanced manufacturer to our long list of international industries,” commented Hickory Mayor Rudy Wright. “Turbocoating is an industry leader in Europe and we look forward to their investment in the area and them becoming a community leader here in Hickory.”

“We’ve been working with Turbocoating for almost a year as they scouted NC, SC and multiple locations for their first US operation,” Julie Pruett, Director of Recruitment for the Catawba County Economic Development Corporation, said regarding the announcement. “As communities across the US increasingly attempt to attract energy companies, the location of Turbocoating proves that Catawba County is well positioned to do what we do best for the energy sector, manufacturing.”

Hiring will begin in May 2011. To apply for employment please contact the Catawba County office of the NC Employment Security Commission, 828-466-5535, located at 3301 Hwy 70 SE, Newton, NC, 28658.

For more information about Turbocoating and United Coatings Group, go to:  
<http://www.turbocoating.com/> and [www.unitedcoatingsgroup.com](http://www.unitedcoatingsgroup.com) .

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For more information contact:  
Julie Pruett, Director of Business Recruitment  
Catawba County Economic Development Corporation  
828-267-1564