

Outside The Loop

Trans-loading operation opens in Conover

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Luckey Logistics Inc. is up and running in a former furniture distribution building in Conover.

The operation is a branch of an Illinois trucking firm. The local unit will specialize in trans-loading plastic pellets from railcars to trucks and then to customers in the Carolinas. The facility also has the equipment to package the pellets before shipping to customers.

The operation is starting out with seven employees and could grow to more than 15, says [Scott Luckey](#), vice president of Luckey Logistics.

For now, the facility occupies 50,000 square feet in the 145,000-square-foot former **Vanguard Furniture Inc.** distribution center on Workman Street, on the north side of Conover. [Jackie Noble](#) is the terminal manager.

Norfolk Southern Corp. has added track for a rail transfer station nearby, which will enable Luckey employees to unload railcars. That facility was expanded to hold as many as 45 railcars, up from the previous 12-car space. Luckey says the facility will supply plastic pellets to customers in the automobile parts, food, consumer products and other industries.

The company is based in Streator, Ill., southwest of Chicago. Luckey operates 500,000 square feet of terminals and trans-loading facilities in the Midwest. It has about 200 employees, says [Vincent Luckey](#), president.

Dallas Machine relocates

Dallas Machine Co. Inc. has a new home in Bessemer City for its metalworking facility. And the company will add about five jobs to the 30-employee operation as it relocates from Gastonia.

The new location is on Ramseur Road. The 36,000-square-foot building was erected on a 70-acre site that also houses three other businesses that, like Dallas Machine, are owned by [Tim Conner](#). Those companies are Spencer-Pettus Gear, Dallas Fabrication and ESS Automation. Conner bought Dallas Machine in 2006. The company has equipment to cut, roll, mill and surface-treat metal.

Ken Elkins covers the counties surrounding Charlotte for the Charlotte Business Journal.