

Triad investors fill renovated plant in Hickory

The Business Journal by Owen Covington, Reporter

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A group of Triad investors has turned around a vacant 277,000-square-foot manufacturing plant in Hickory this year, with about 95 percent of the renovated building now leased.

Stewart Superabsorbants LLC recently signed a lease for 142,000 square feet of space in [Catawba Industrial Commons](#), a former **Corning Cable Systems** manufacturing facility that had been vacant for several years before being purchased by investor group Charis Hickory in February.

"Within seven short months, we were able to reposition the building and put three new tenants in there," said [Stuart Nunn](#), with RealtyAnalytix Advisors of High Point, who represents the investor group.

Stewart Superabsorbants joins Turbocoating Corp. and Value Core Solutions in Catawba Industrial Commons and will be relocating 30 to 35 employees from its Taylorsville facility to Hickory as part of a consolidation. The company supplies CABLOC-brand superabsorbant polyacrylates to the wire and cable industry.

Turbocoating [announced in April](#) it would be moving to Catawba Industrial Commons and would employ about 110 in the new space. Value Core Solutions reprocesses printer cartridges and will have a small staff, Nunn said.

"We've gone about it in a systematic way, taking a manufacturing facility and turning it into a combination manufacturing and distribution facility," Nunn said.

That's included upgrading dock areas, modernizing the electrical system and installing new energy efficient windows. [Tony Jarrett](#) with Prism Commercial has handled leasing for the property and High Point-based H. Stuart Construction was the contractor on the renovation. Nunn did not disclose how much was invested in the renovation.