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## **Bluegrass Tool and Industrial Expanding Operations, Adding Jobs**

*Industrial solutions provider to invest \$1.5 Million*

**LEXINGTON, Ky. (August 11, 2015)** – A manufacturing service provider is growing operations in Lexington. Mayor Jim Gray today joined officials from Bluegrass Tool & Industrial in breaking ground on a new 25,000 square-foot facility.

The expansion will support Bluegrass Tool & Industrial's growing business, which is expected to double by 2016. With a nearly \$1.5 million investment, the company plans to launch a spin-off company and create 10 new jobs.

"It's exciting to see local businesses grow in Lexington," Gray said. "We've got a great quality of life and a strong, growing economy...Bluegrass Tool & Industrial is adding to our success."

"It is a great blessing to live and work in a city like Lexington. Why would we not want Bluegrass Tool & Industrial to call Lexington home, as well?" said Russell Sells, President of Bluegrass Tool. "We are committed to creating value for our customers and jobs for our community."

Bluegrass Tool & Industrial is a one-stop supplier for industrial manufacturers specializing in hoist and crane sales, fabrication, electrical and mechanical contracting. The company's newly-formed spinoff is Accelerated Training Academy, developed to provide training solutions for manufacturing facilities in response to workforce needs.

"When we walk into a facility, we keep our eyes open to potential safety, ergonomic, and productivity improvements. With the addition of the training academy, we will not only be able to supply quality services and products, we will be able to provide our customers with experienced, safe, and reliable team members," Sells said.

"Bluegrass Tool & Industrial is a great example of an entrepreneur who has succeeded in growing his business here in the region," said Bob Quick, CCE, President & CEO of Commerce Lexington Inc. "Our economic development team enjoyed working with this fast growing company on its expansion project in Lexington. Congratulations on your growth!"

Bluegrass Tool opened its first facility in March 2012. The company has experienced significant growth in its first 3 years. Bluegrass Tool currently has 14 employees.