

May 28, 2008 - Lockheed Announcement Could Mean Jobs for Johnstown

The Tribune Democrat

www.tribune-democrat.com

Lockheed
announcement could mean jobs for Johnstown

By SHAWN PIATEK

The Tribune-Democrat

May 28, 2008

John Carroll is looking forward to his pending move in August from Greenville, S.C., to the Johnstown region.

Carroll, a longtime Lockheed Martin Corp. employee, is packing up because his job and about 100 others are being relocated to Richland Township beginning in September.

The company announced Wednesday that its Global Supply Chain Services unit will move to 210 Industrial Park Road.

Asked whether he was aware of the region's cold and snowy winters, Carroll said he's looking forward to it.

"I have an SUV," said Carroll, vice president of global supply, who will be the top manager locally. "I'm looking forward to putting it to use."

Lockheed said all of its Greenville-based employees are being offered the opportunity to relocate with the office, which pays an average annual wage of \$60,000. Lockheed anticipates that any vacancies created by those who choose not to make the move will be filled by the local work force.

Employees in Greenville were told of the move Tuesday. Carroll said he's not sure how many workers will follow their jobs north.

“We would like everyone to come because we have a talented work force that’s made this department a success,” Carroll said. “We’re giving them until the end of June to decide, then we’re going to look to fill in the openings with local folks.”

The company said one of the major reasons for the move was for its proximity to Lockheed Martin AeroParts Inc. The new office – which will be under the same roof as Kongsberg Defense and DRS Laurel Technologies – will be right across Industrial Park Road from the parts manufacturing facility.

“The military is flying planes that sometimes parts are no longer available for,” said Marillyn Hewson, executive vice president of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics’ Global Sustainment.

“When you can walk across the street with the specs for needed parts and have them made on site, that’s a huge benefit to us in providing the best services possible to our customers.”

Another reason for the move is to have the unit geographically closer to major customers such as the Defense Logistics Agency.

Hewson said Global Supply Chain Services does a large amount of its work with clients in Philadelphia, Mechanicsburg, Columbus, Ohio, and Washington, D.C.

The company describes the unit as a one-stop supplier supporting the U.S. and foreign governments as well as commercial customers.

U.S. Rep. John Murtha, D-Johnstown, said Lockheed’s decision shows the company sees the region as a good place to do business.

With the two units in the Industrial Park, Lockheed will have more than 200 employees in the region within three years.

Murtha also noted that the company’s Systems Integration Division in Owego, N.Y., has made substantial investment in the region, subcontracting to several companies in Cambria County.

Among those working relationships: Lockheed and JWF Industries are partnering to vie for the \$10 billion U.S. Army Joint Light Tactical Vehicle contract.

“No matter how big you are, you have to produce competitively,” Murtha said. “These big companies have learned that they have to produce at the same level of efficiency as the little guys.”

“Being here will help them to do that. We’re proud to have them here in Johnstown.”