



### **First TIA Project Performed in Toombs County**

The State Transportation Board and Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) officials announced in early April that the first local Transportation Investment Act (TIA) funded project was set to begin in Toombs County. The project has been completed to add a dedicated turn lane on State Route 130 north of Lyons to serve a new pet food manufacturing facility, US Pet Nutrition. The turn lane, costing \$162,000, was constructed by McClendon Enterprises, Inc., of nearby Vidalia, and is now open to traffic.



**Gary Campbell, President & CEO  
of VNS Corporation**

### **VNS Corporation Ranks in Top 50 Building Materials Suppliers in the Nation**

VNS Corporation, headquartered in Vidalia, GA since 1947, ranks number 45 in the PROSALES 100. The PROSALES 100 is the premier report on construction supply companies that garner at least a third of their revenues from professional builders. Retail oriented companies are excluded, thus making it possible to examine more accurately the pro-oriented side of the lumber and building material industry.

The annual report released May 15, 2013 by Hanley Wood's PROSALES magazine found that PROSALES 100 companies sold a total of \$29.74 billion worth of goods in 2012, up 13.3% from their 2011 total sales.

Gary Campbell, President & CEO, stated, "This is quite an accomplishment for VNS Corporation. We continuously rank in the top 50 of this distinct group of building material providers." VNS Corporation has seen a 16% increase from fiscal year ending 2011 to fiscal year ending 2012. VNS opened a Choo Choo Build-It Mart location in Jacksonville, FL during this time and reopened a location in Richmond Hill as a roofing distributor. Campbell stated, "We have seen a marked increase in building permits in the past year and national indicators are showing a 25% increase for 2013. It is a good sign for the home building industry overall."

VNS Corporation is the parent company of four divisions and two wholly owned subsidiaries. Choo Choo Build-It Mart is a full line store and lumber yard structured to serve single family customers. Choo Choo stores are located in Greensboro, Dublin, Perry, Rincon, Kingsland, and Jacksonville, FL. Also operating under the Choo Choo name are the Richmond Hill roofing and distribution yard and a window and door showroom in Brunswick. Wholesale Building Products (WBP) specializes in multi-family and light commercial construction throughout the United States. WBP's focus is working with general contractors to supply material to build apartments, student housing, retirement communities, military privatized housing and assisted living homes. Bestline Sash & Door in Ailey, GA is a manufacturer of interior and exterior door units. Bestline door units include Hershey Wamock fire-rated certifications and many of their door units are Energy Star Certified. Charlie's Discount Building Materials sells on a cash and carry basis, with a primary focus on wood cabinets and flooring. ProCon Construction Services, LLC, offers general labor contractors labor and contract administration services. ProCon sells construction materials and labor as one package to both the single family and multi-family builder. TrussMart Building Components, LLC, rounds out the manufacturing side offering customer designed wood and metal roof trusses, engineered floors and box stairs to residential and commercial builders.



## Truax Veneer Company Hosts Local Leadership

Andy Kimbell, Owner/Manager of Truax Veneer Company, recently hosted representatives of the Toombs County Development Authority, the Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce and other community organizations on a tour of the local facility. Located in Lyons, Toombs County, Georgia, since 1947, Truax Veneer Company was purchased by Mr. Kimbell in 1995. The Company manufactures premium rotary cut hardwood veneer cross-bands. Selling direct to fine furniture and millwork companies, the veneers are used in musical instruments; fine furniture and casegoods; curved plywood; upholstery frames; plywood quarter rounds and half rounds; molded plywood; rotary die boards; architectural millwork; commercial fixtures and cabinetry; and yacht and motor coach interiors. The local facility currently employs 33 persons.



## Ribbon Cutting Held for Family Health Center at Dot Foods

The Family Health Center is an on-site medical clinic for the care of DOT Foods employees and their family members. The Family Health Center, as part of a partnership with TransformHealthRx, will provide free maintenance care on some illnesses, as well as free preventative and wellness visits. The clinic also provides affordable, accountable and accessible care for acute issues.



## VHS Students Get a Jump Start to a Bright Future

Fifteen Vidalia High School (VHS) students recently earned their Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) industry certification in Word 2010. The MOS exam is the only performance-based certification that validates the skills needed to get the most out of Microsoft Office. Earning a MOS certification can give students an advantage in today's competitive job market and expand their employment opportunities. Business and Computer Science teachers, Mrs. Gloria Helms and Mrs. Donna Collins are proud of their students and the 100% passing rate of the class.

**Congratulations to the following students...**

**Front: Brent Miller, Allison Edenfield, Dana Roberts, Bruce Honaker, Jordan Robins, Taylor Robins, Brendan Carroll**  
**Back: Travis Turner, J.D. Mitchell, Trace Calloway, Kadarius Massey, Raheem Turner, Austin Smith, David Roberts, Daniel Morrison**

Community + Commerce + Connectivity

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