

Utility Trailer Announces Plant Expansion in Virginia as it Celebrates its 90th Year as the Oldest Trailer Manufacturer in the U.S.

April 14, 2004

CITY OF INDUSTRY, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 14, 2004--Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company, a leading manufacturer of dry freight vans, flatbeds, refrigerated vans and Tautliner® curtainsided trailers that is celebrating a major milestone in American business as it enters its 90th year as America's oldest trailer manufacturer, is pleased to announce that it is expanding its Smyth County facility in the state of Virginia.

Employing more than 700 people, Utility's Smyth County facility located in the Mountain Empire Industrial Park has been in operation since 1989. Through an \$11.5 million investment, the company will increase its production capability to keep up with demand for its market-leading 3000R refrigerated trailers.

"Utility still embraces the values and vision laid forth by our founders in 1914," stated Hal Bennett, President of Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company. "Those values guide how we conduct our business each day. Most important in those values are loyalty to our employees and their families, to our customers and our vendors and specifically to the state of Virginia and Smyth County who have supported us for many years. Deciding to expand here was the right thing to do."

In addition to the Smyth County facility, Utility also maintains a dry van manufacturing facility in Washington County that employs 250 people. This facility manufactures both the new 4000D-X™ and the 3000D series of dry vans.

Through the years Utility Trailer has built a reputation for innovative designs and a resolute commitment to quality, from its market-leading line of 3000R refrigerated trailers manufactured in the Smyth County facility to the new, innovative 4000D-X™ dry van. This penchant for innovation and quality continues today as the company looks to the future in the state of Virginia.

About Utility Trailer

Based in City of Industry, California, and celebrating its 90-year anniversary, Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company is America's oldest privately owned, family-operated trailer manufacturer. Building trailers since 1914, the company designs and manufactures dry freight vans, flatbeds, refrigerated vans, and Tautliner® curtainsided trailers. Utility is the largest producer of refrigerated vans and the third largest trailer manufacturer overall in the U.S.A. Utility currently operates five regionally placed trailer factories: two for refrigerated trailers, located in Marion, Virginia, and Clearfield, Utah; two for Dry Vans, located in Glade Spring, Virginia, and Paragould, Arkansas; and a Flatbed and Tautliner® factory in Enterprise, Alabama. Utility's historical position as America's largest producer of refrigerated vans is a direct result of its management's focus on providing innovative solutions to customer problems. Utility's extensive dealer network has over 100 locations throughout the USA,

Canada, Mexico and South America. For more information, contact Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company at 626-965-1541, or visit the company's web site at www.utilitytrailer.com

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