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SMEAD ANNOUNCES STREAMLINING OF OPERATIONS
Georgia and Minnesota Production and Distribution
Activities to Move to Other Facilities

HASTINGS, Minn. (February 19, 2015) — Smead Manufacturing today announced a restructuring designed to streamline operations and improve efficiency. The restructuring will result in the closure of the production and distribution facility located in Locust Grove, Georgia, and the transfer of the majority of production and distribution activities from Hastings, Minnesota, to other Smead locations. This will result in the elimination of approximately 150 positions in Georgia and 100 production-related positions in Minnesota. Following these changes, Smead will continue to operate four production and distribution facilities located in Utah, Ohio, South Carolina and Texas. Smead’s corporate headquarters will remain at its current site in Hastings.

In making this announcement, Smead President and CEO Sharon Avent said: “We’ve seen a long-term decline in the industry, with technology playing a larger role in the office, as well as consolidation in the industry and in our customer base. We have more capacity than is needed to service today’s marketplace. As a result, we must better align our production footprint with the market. Our new manufacturing and distribution structure will ensure sufficient capacity to meet current and future needs, while maintaining our historically strong levels of customer service.”

Smead plans to work with affected communities and the states of Georgia and Minnesota, and directly with its employees, to assist them in securing new employment. “This has been a difficult decision and we regret the impact that it will have on our co-workers and friends,” Avent said. “We will work with community partners to do everything we can to assist those who are affected.”

Smead Manufacturing Company, a leader in office filing products and records management systems, was established in 1906 in Hastings, Minnesota. Smead is a privately held, certified Women’s Business Enterprise (WBE) offering thousands of organizational products for use in the home or office. For more information on Smead’s high-quality organizational products, including hundreds of products made in the USA, visit www.smead.com.

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