



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SOUTHERN GRAPHIC SYSTEMS TO EMPLOY 40 IN TAMPA'S ENTERPRISE ZONE

TAMPA, Florida — Southern Graphic Systems, Inc. has acquired the book of business and equipment and will lease the 16,000 sq. ft. building formerly occupied by Photoengraving, Inc., once a full-service prepress graphics and manufacturing facility located in Tampa's Enterprise Zone. The company plans to invest \$1.2 million in capital equipment purchases and building improvements. They will be leasing the property from Photoengraving, Inc.

In connection with the transaction, Southern Graphic Systems has hired the 33 former Photoengraving employees to continue running the acquired business in its Enterprise Zone location. The company expects to hire five to 10 additional employees as the business expands.

"We are pleased that a company with Southern Graphic's outstanding reputation will now focus on growing the business we established here in 1953," said Edward L. Dalton, Jr., Photoengraving's president.

"The Photoengraving acquisition brings important new capabilities to our business," said Hank Baughman, Southern Graphic Systems' president and CEO. "These capabilities will allow us to increase our services to current customers and will be important to customers we don't currently serve. We look forward to being in a community where the workforce has the skills and talents that are unique to our business."

Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn pointed out that “Tampa Hillsborough EDC worked with city staff, Hillsborough County, Enterprise Florida and Workforce Florida to secure the project and to save jobs in an area of town where job retention is paramount. Two other locations where Southern Graphic Systems has existing facilities were under consideration along with Tampa. We thank Southern Graphic Systems for selecting our community and welcome them with great pride to Tampa.”

"Of paramount importance during the decision making process was to secure these jobs for the citizens of Tampa. With this as our goal, a mutually beneficial outcome for Southern Graphic Systems and our community was achieved," said EDC Chair Rhea Law, CEO and chair, Board of Directors, Fowler White Boggs.

Southern Graphic Systems works with many of the world’s preeminent consumer product goods companies providing innovative solutions to enhance brand identity. Services include design, photography, prepress, and management of the entire brand development cycle.

About Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation:

Tampa Hillsborough EDC is officially recognized by Enterprise Florida as Hillsborough County’s primary business recruitment and retention economic development team in partnership with Hillsborough County and the cities of Tampa, Plant City, Temple Terrace and private investors. Its primary mission is to create jobs that pay above average wages and to broaden the tax base by generating new, sustainable capital investment.

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