

NH Charitable Foundation Board, Chapman Development and NCIC Tour NSA Industries' Groveton Facility



GROVETON, NH — “We are pleased to have expanded to Groveton,” said Jim Moroney, Chief Executive Officer of NSA Industries, as he hosted the board of directors of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, developer Bob Chapman and managers of Northern Community Investment Corporation on Wednesday, September 13.

Following an intriguing tour through the state-of-the-art operation, the group discussed the expanding employment opportunities developing in Groveton.

“It was a year ago this month that we held a job fair,” said Moroney. “We were pleased to have 320 applicants. It gave us confidence to move ahead and the next day we began finalizing an agreement with Bob Chapman.”

The Groveton facility got underway in January and today there are 92 people working at the plant. NSA Industries purchased \$3 million in equipment at the start of the operations and the company is currently purchasing an additional \$3 million in equipment to support the expanding opportunities in the northern New Hampshire community, along with hiring about a dozen more people.

NSA Industries is the largest metal fabrication, machining, and powder coating operation of its kind in northern New England. Headquartered in St. Johnsbury, Vt., NSA is nationally ranked #15 by thefabricator.com, a publication of the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association, International®. NSA Industries' three facilities in St Johnsbury employ more than 220. The company is also expanding there and is in the process of hiring additional employees.

Chapman Development owner Bob Chapman explained the property's transformation. “The paper mills closed in 2006 and 2007. But this is no longer a closed mill site; it is an industrial park. We are happy to have NSA Industries here.”

“USDA Rural Development provided funds for the preliminary engineering of the water and sewer,” said Cathy Conway, Vice President of Economic Development at NCIC, in discussing the development of the infrastructure. “Northern Borders Regional Commission matched a Chapman Development donation to

bring sewer to this facility and others. Then the town agreed to a bond to match Economic Development Administration funds to continue the sewer and water to other locations in the industrial park. That work is scheduled to begin next month.”

“To bring business, you kiss a lot of frogs,” explained Jon Freeman, President of NCIC. “But we found a prince with NSA. Ninety-two jobs and growing! With the industrial park looking so good and having another employer here, others are considering coming here. Beno Lamontagne of the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs is leading the charge. It’s very encouraging.”

NCIC has been a critical partner for NSA Industries. “NCIC has helped us purchase two facilities in St. Johnsbury,” said Moroney. “When we determined that we had to look elsewhere to support the growth in front of us, they did all they could to be sure we stayed in their territory. They identified options, Groveton stood out for us, and here we are. It was the right move. NCIC made this possible and NCIC is playing a critical factor in structuring a financing solution to support our growth in both St Johnsbury and Groveton.”

“Through the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation has been a significant funding partner in the North Country,” said Freeman. “Having NSA in Groveton is a great example in that it was [their investment](#) that helped us develop a new capacity at NCIC for helping with such opportunities.”

NCIC is a private nonprofit working to strengthen employment opportunities throughout the region. The NCIC Annual Meeting will be held on October 19. This event is renowned for bringing hundreds of bankers, business owners, and local, state and federal leaders together for networking opportunities, to review progress on various projects, and discuss future possibilities. All are welcome. Please go to www.ncic.org to register.