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G.E. Aviation facility coming to Jones County

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July 27--ELLISVILLE --

GE Aviation is coming to Jones County. That's the special announcement that brought Gov. Haley Barbour to town this afternoon.

During a news conference at the JCJC Advanced Technology Center in the Howard Technology Park, Barbour announced that the Evendale, Ohio-based aviation supplier would be building a manufacturing plant in Jones County.

GE Aviation will invest \$56 million in the new 300,000-square-foot facility, which will manufacture advanced composite components for aircraft engines and systems. The company hopes to begin production in 2013 and to create 250 new high-tech manufacturing jobs by 2016.

GE Aviation, a subsidiary of General Electric ([GE](#)), opened a manufacturing facility in Batesville in 2008, which now has 300 employees and is continuing to grow.

"We are excited to expand our production capability in Mississippi with the opening of a second plant that will create hundreds of new high-tech jobs this decade for the state," said David Joyce, president and CEO of GE Aviation, in a statement. "GE has invested more than \$12 billion in the research and development of reliable technology innovation over the past 10 years and today's announcement shows that commitment is paying off."

Added Barbour, "Within 10 years, GE Aviation will have created more than 600 jobs for Mississippi workers and invested \$150 million in the state."

According to a news release, GE Aviation will invest hundreds of millions of dollars across its more than 30 operations in the U.S., including at new manufacturing operations in Auburn, Ala., and in Mississippi. The company employs approximately 17,000 workers in manufacturing in the U.S.

For more on this story, see Thursday's edition of the Laurel Leader-Call.

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