



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ELITE ELASTOMERS ACQUIRES WAYNE COUNTY RUBBER

Elite expands service and production to Northern US

Ripley, MS, September 17, 2018 – Elite Elastomers Inc., an Applicative Compounder established in 2001, purchases Wayne County Rubber, Inc. of Wooster, Ohio. Elite, founded as a custom mixer has broadened their capabilities and business model by leveraging their strength in technology to focus wholly on the end application for their customers. An Applicative Compounder strategically moves beyond traditional custom mixing and emphasizes the best solution forged by true customer supplier-relationships. “Our purchase of Wayne County Rubber not only expands our reach geographically, it allows increased production capacity while continuing the tradition of quality compounding and end-use design for both our customers and Wayne County Rubber’s customers.” comments Ginger Glidewell, Technical Director at Elite Elastomers Inc.

Wayne County Rubber, established in 1991, is a small privately-owned and operated custom rubber mixer. All of the 30 employees of Wayne County Rubber will remain at the Wooster, Ohio facility, as well as their current president, Laurie Schang. The new name for the facility will be Elite Elastomers of Ohio.

“We will also expand the excellent testing and processing capabilities established at our Ripley, MS facility to Ohio, and plan to add 5-7 new positions in Ohio. We will continue

operating in a culture which utilizes the concept of the improvement footprint for both our facilities and our offerings to unique customers.” added Ginger Glidewell.

As Elite builds on the region’s strength, they have entered into a long-term supply relationship with Ohio-based Grand River Rubber & Plastics (GRRP). According to GRRP president Donny Chaplin, “Our goal with Elite Elastomers of Ohio is to create an affiliation for the purposes of research and cooperation on formula development and supply while maximizing process efficiency and cost factors.” Employee owned GRRP is best known for international capabilities in lathe cut rubber gaskets, flat belts, and pail gaskets.

Steve Glidewell, President of Elite Elastomers Inc., commented “We are excited to complete this acquisition and we will work to align our groups as we move together into the future. I believe this supply partnership with GRRP is an example of a growing trend in the rubber industry where large consumers of elastomeric products are looking for ways to gain more input in their supply chain by partnering with the technical resources and support of innovative mixers like Elite Elastomers.”

About Elite Elastomers

Elite Elastomers Inc., headquartered in Ripley, Mississippi, was founded in 2001 as an Applicative Compounder that is expertly skilled in material engineering and the unique chemistry of elastomers. Elite Elastomers is an applications-driven supplier that specializes in high-performance non-metallic materials solutions. Elite Elastomers offers robust elastomeric solutions for the oil and gas market and high-performance applications. By using new technologies, new materials, and new methods, Elite is prepared for future application demands which also prepares customers for the future. As a Technical Product Partner, Elite uses its extensive culture of understanding

applications, material design, prototype, and research and development to produce a winning material. Elite Elastomers services the elastomeric market via practices in seamless integration and collaborative alliances. More information about Elite Elastomers at www.eliteelastomers.com.