

Biomass Engineering & Equipment to Open Second Plant for Conveyors

INDIANAPOLIS—Due to the demand for their SMART Conveyors, Biomass Engineering & Equipment will open a second manufacturing plant at 5851 S. Harding Street, Indianapolis at the beginning of May. This plant will be solely dedicated to producing the company's popular twin-chain drag conveyors for the biomass and bulk materials markets.

Adding a second facility will reduce lead times for the conveyors and allow the company to bring more production in house for better oversight and quality management.

The second plant represents several million dollars of private investment. To make use of the plant and to fill demand, the company will add approximately twenty, well-paying jobs, said Dane Floyd, president of Biomass Engineering & Equipment. Jobs will include fabricators, welders and engineers.

The original plant will make assemblies to feed the new facility and manufacture custom, lower-volume machines.

Biomass Engineering & Equipment began producing SMART Conveyors in 2011 in response to an increased use of wood waste for boiler fuel in the wood products industry. As larger and more diverse companies took notice of the conveyors' efficiency and design, BE&E expanded its conveyor line to three series to handle differing volume requirements: S (standard), M (medium) and T (tall).

"When we started, we were making conveyors that handled four to five tons per hour of material. Now it's not uncommon for us to get orders for conveyors that handle more than 100 tons per hour," Dane Floyd said.

Biomass Engineering & Equipment, along with its parent company, Veneer Services, has always been known for its innovative machines. What sets SMART Conveyors apart is their low operating costs. The conveyors are uniquely designed for minimal friction and wear so components last longer and less energy is required to operate the machine than many other comparable products.

"With this new facility, we're ready to meet the demand we're encountering for our conveyors," Dane Floyd said. "We're poised for growth. We're in a good position."