



## **Smithfield opens new \$100 million plant in Kinston**

*Boneless cooked ham facility brings 300 new jobs to North Carolina*

KINSTON (November 2, 2006) — Smithfield Packing Company, the nation's largest pork producer, officially opened a new \$100 million plant in Kinston today. The plant has created 300 new jobs in North Carolina and will contribute more than \$1.5 million in annual wages to the local economy.

"This new plant represents a glimpse of the future – the future of our company, the future of the food business and the future of North Carolina," said Joe Luter IV, president and chief operating officer of Smithfield Packing Co. "Smithfield has always had a strong presence in North Carolina and we are excited to be opening this modern new facility in Kinston."

N.C. Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue, Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler, Kinston Mayor Pro Tem Robert Swinson and Lenoir County Commissioner George Graham joined executives from Smithfield Foods and Smithfield Packing Company for the grand opening ceremony at the Kinston plant.

This is Smithfield's second plant in Kinston and its seventh plant in North Carolina. The company currently employs more than 11,000 workers in North Carolina.

The new Kinston plant is a boneless cooked ham facility that employs state-of-the-art technologies designed to improve food safety, enhance food quality and reduce water consumption. It will initially produce 90 million pounds of pork products annually, including deli ham and sliced lunch meat.

### **About Smithfield Packing Company**

Smithfield Packing Co. is America's leading pork producer. It produces a variety of pork products — country hams, hot dogs, bacon, deli meat, fresh meat, barbeque, sausage and more — for customers around the world. It is a subsidiary of Smithfield Foods, a leading international food company with annual revenues of \$11 billion and one of "America's Most Admired Companies," as ranked by FORTUNE magazine.

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### **For More Information**

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# Smithfield®

**Smithfield Packing Company**  
**New Kinston, North Carolina Facility**

*Profile | October 2006*

## **Smithfield Packing Co. has opened a new \$100 million plant in Kinston, North Carolina.**

It is a boneless cooked ham facility that employs state-of-the-art technologies designed to improve food safety, enhance food quality and reduce water consumption.

### **Employment & Economic Impact**

The plant will employ 300 workers and contribute more than \$1.5 million in wages each year to the local economy. This is the second Smithfield plant in Kinston and the company's seventh plant in North Carolina.

### **Products**

The Kinston II plant will initially produce 90 million pounds of product, including deli ham and sliced lunch meat. It has the capacity to produce up to 130 million pounds of product. The plant will also provide a variety of ham products to food services companies that provide meals to corporations, schools and other institutions.

### **Introducing State-of-the-art Technologies**

The Kinston II plant is one of the industry's most modern facilities. The plant's advanced technologies include the use of an automated French water cook system that minimizes human contact with food and reduces water consumption by 80 percent.

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## **The Kinston II Plant At A Glance**

### **Established**

October 2006

### **Location**

The 240,000 square foot plant is located on 87 acres at 1780 Smithfield Way in Kinston.

### **Plant Manager**

Terry O'Rourke

### **Number of Employees**

300

### **Wages & Benefits**

Wages start at \$8.33 per hour.  
The average wage is \$11.00 per hour.

Benefits include medical insurance, dental/vision insurance, 401k participation and paid vacation.

### **Smithfield in North Carolina**

Smithfield employs 11,000 workers at 7 plants in Tar Heel, Wilson, Elon, Kinston, Benson and Clayton.