



Welspun Completes \$30M Expansion at LR Plant

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Welspun, an international pipe manufacturer, has completed a \$30 million expansion at its Little Rock facility, it announced Monday.

The Little Rock plant, Welspun Tubular, is in its third year of operation with more than 600 employees, more than double its 2010 Little Rock workforce.

"Arkansas continues to provide the quality workforce and resources needed to make Welspun Tubular one of the finest pipe manufacturing facilities in the world," said B.K. Goenka, Chairman of Welspun Corp., in a press release. "Our success depends on the ability to deliver a quality product in a timely fashion, and it's the Arkansas 'can-do' spirit and business support that keeps us at the top of our industry."

Welspun's total investment in the Little Rock facility, its first large-diameter pipe manufacturing plant in North America, now stands at \$180 million. Its investment in Arkansas is one of the largest in state history, Welspun officials said, and has provided a statewide economic impact of roughly \$50 million.

"In three short years, Welspun has built a state-of-the-art facility, begun production, and hired over 600 people to meet the growing demand for pipe worldwide, far exceeding their original plans," said Maria Haley, executive director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, said in the release. "I congratulate Welspun and its excellent workforce that has made it an international leader in advanced pipe production."

The expansion includes new equipment, land development, additional storage space and over 22,000 feet of rail track that will enable Welspun Tubular to fulfill orders at a short notice. Welspun has shipped more than 6.6 million feet of pipe throughout the continent, the equivalent of more than 10,000 rail cars, from its Little Rock plant.