

Carolina Beer & Beverage Groundbreaking



(Left to Right) Russell Rogerson, Woody Washam, Bob Palms, Michael Smith, Bill Thunberg, Sara Haire Tice, Tom Wilson, John Stritch

A groundbreaking ceremony was held at the Mooresville Business Park on Tuesday to kick off construction of Carolina Beer & Beverage LLC's 300,000 square foot state-of-the-art distribution facility that will allow the company to streamline its warehouse and distribution operations. The new \$11 million facility will be built and owned by G. L. Wilson Building Company of Statesville, N.C.

"We are very pleased to be partnering with G.L. Wilson on this project that will add great value to our company and our customers," said, Carolina Beer & Beverage Company's CEO J. Michael Smith. "The new facility will allow us to better and more cost effectively serve our customers."

Carolina Beer & Beverage was founded in 1997 by Smith and President John Stritch. The company is the creator and maker of a dozen, high-quality, draft beers sold and distributed in five mid-Atlantic states under the Carolina Blonde and Cottonwood Ales brands. "As our market grows in sales and in geographic reach, it is important that our company continue to improve product distribution," Smith said. "This new facility will greatly enhance our ability to move product when and where it is needed."

G.L. Wilson, in business since 1945, has been working with Carolina Beer & Beverage for the past year on this project. "We believe skill, responsibility and integrity are as important in the construction process as brick and mortar," said G. L. Wilson VP Bob Palmes. "That why we are pleased to be working with a quality, local company such as Carolina Beer & Beverage."

Local dignitaries gathered at the Mooresville Business Park to help celebrate the groundbreaking. Iredell County Commissioner Sara Haire Tice and Mooresville Mayor Bill Thunberg also offered congratulatory words for the expanding company.

"Carolina Beer & Beverage has a reputation as a world-class co-packing producer for numerous national and international beverage brands in addition to its brewery operations," said Russell Rogerson, executive director of the Mooresville South Iredell Economic Development Corporation. "We are very pleased to have a company of this quality in our community that is growing to meet the demands of its market."

The company's production facility is located at 110 Barley Park Lane, Mooresville, NC. Their current capacity is 35 plus million cases annually, including the latest in high speed can filling, batching, tunnel pasteurization and laboratory technologies.