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## Dell Plant To Hold Official Opening

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A farm field in Forsyth County has been transformed into the newest corporate force in the Triad. On Wednesday, the transformation becomes official.

Dell will hold ceremonies to open its 500,000-square-foot manufacturing plant. The company was lured to North Carolina by the largest incentives package in state history and chose Forsyth County for its location in December.

This afternoon's invitation-only ceremony will feature a presentation by company chairman Michael Dell.

About 350 workers are already on the Dell payroll, and the company has pledged to hire as many as 1,500 people within five years. The new plant will be the company's largest.

Dell has signed a contract with Winston-Salem, Forsyth County and other local agencies for about \$37 million in economic incentives. The nonprofit Institute for Constitutional Law has filed a lawsuit challenging those incentives and \$242 million offered by the state.

Dell officials say the plant will be a good corporate citizen. Jobs will pay an average of \$28,000 a year.

"We sold 9.1 million computers in the last quarter and that just continues to grow," said Dell spokesman Travis Simpson. "So we have a good need to produce desktop computers as we continue to satisfy our customers, and that's what this plant is all about."




Stay with WXII 12 News on Wednesday for more coverage of Dell's opening.

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