

PRESS RELEASE

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Yoakum, Texas: Circle Y Saddles, Inc will be constructing a new 30,000 square foot warehouse in a deal announced today with the Yoakum Economic Development Corporation (YEDC). In consolidating its two plants, fifteen Circle Y Saddles employees based in Tennessee were offered packages to relocate to Yoakum. "We have great employees in Tennessee and we hope most decide to transfer", remarked Mark Jemelka, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Circle Y Saddles. "By consolidating all manufacturing and distribution in Yoakum we expect to experience significant operational efficiencies, especially in shipping".

"The decision to expand and consolidate the operations in Yoakum was largely due to the fact that we wanted to provide our customers with a higher level of service while still providing the highest quality American made saddles, tack, bits, saddle pads and accessories. This decision reflects both a large investment by the Company and a significant vote of confidence in the Texas Operation Team", says Steve Tucker, President of Circle Y Saddles, Inc. "The deepening of our roots in Yoakum reinforces the Company commitment to continue the 56 year legacy of the Circle Y Brand."

The YEDC grants will assist in the costs of fire suppression, roof repairs for the existing manufacturing building, and equipment. "Additionally, an incentive of \$4,000 per job will be awarded", said Chuck Dart, Director of Economic Development for the City of Yoakum. "We're very pleased that one of Yoakum's major employers decided to reaffirm its commitment to the community".

Circle Y Saddles, Inc is America's largest manufacturer and distributor of custom saddles, tack, bits, saddle pads and accessories. These products carry the most prestigious and recognized brands in the industry; Circle Y, Tucker Trail, Reinsman, and High Horse.

The Yoakum Economic Development Corporation is a Type B economic development municipal corporation funded by sales tax collections. Through its grant programs the YEDC supports industrial, commercial, downtown historic preservation and community development efforts.



Computer controlled equipment cut saddle parts from hides.



A Tucker saddle and a Circle Y saddle near the end of the production line at the Yoakum plant.



Steve Tucker, Circle Y Saddles President, signs the agreement with the Yoakum Economic Development Corporation. From left: Gery Maneth, Yoakum EDC President; Mark Jemelka, Executive Vice President, Circle Y Saddles; Tucker; Chuck Dart, Director of Economic Development, City of Yoakum.