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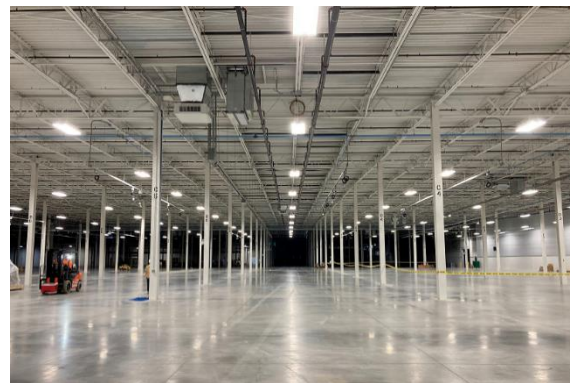
**YKK AP AMERICA INC. — Operations Begin at New Macon Factory
High-Efficiency, Integrated Production Facility/Factory for Residential Vinyl Windows
Established**

YKK AP AMERICA INC. (Headquarters: Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.; President: Oliver Stepe), a local subsidiary of YKK AP Inc., is pleased to announce its new facility for the production of residential vinyl windows, which had been under construction since October 2022 in Macon, Georgia, began operations on December 28, 2023.

Located in central Georgia, the Macon Factory was built on a new site acquired approximately 20 minutes by car from the former Macon Factory. All manufacturing functions of the former factory, which had previously been dispersed across the two locations, have been transferred to establish an integrated production system for vinyl windows. This will strengthen the production and supply capabilities to improve the company’s competitive advantage, with the aim of increasing sales of residential products throughout the six southern states of in the U.S.A.



Exterior view of the factory



Interior view of the factory

Under the policy of "contributing to customers’ businesses, the global environment, and local communities through a commitment to safety and quality," the Macon Factory is focused on safety and quality in all of its operations, contributing to customers’ businesses and the local community, and being a plant where its employees can take pride in their work.

The factory has upgrades including a new hung window line for the production of the upcoming "StyleView® Classic series," an improved product that will be launched in addition to producing the existing vinyl window products. Production flow is designed to run from the west side of the building to the east side in order of extrusion of vinyl materials, processing of glass and windows, assembly, and shipping, creating a highly efficient integrated production system. Automation technology, which has been adopted in Japan for the APW Line for the production of vinyl windows, will be rolled out in the new factory to increase productivity by 212% from current levels. In addition, to ensure a safe and high-quality factory, improvements such as the development of a remote support system, the adoption of equipment specifications

that can be maintained and managed by local operators, and in-process inspections that are not dependent on human operators, will be established.

To create an environment that is comfortable for workers, automation such as GTP (*1) technology will be added to reduce physically demanding tasks such as heavy lifting and picking in the production line, as well as during the warehousing and shipment processes. Additionally, the information infrastructure will be developed to help establish a "smart factory."

In order to reduce CO₂ emissions, the new building has increased natural light, and improved insulation of its roof and walls for better energy efficiency. Furthermore, energy-generation technologies will be phased in, in an effort to achieve carbon neutrality. The building design is scalable to accommodate additional automation, increased capacity, and future business and product expansion strategies. In addition, an emergency evacuation site has been secured to ensure the safety and security of employees in the event of natural disasters, such as tornadoes that frequently occur in the southern United States.

*1: GTP stands for Goods To Person, and refers to a system of shelf-transporting robots that bring goods to the location of workers picking goods at distribution centers, etc., or a method of carrying out picking operations in which workers pick goods from a fixed location. Compared to a method in which workers walk while picking goods stored on fixed shelves, this minimizes worker movement, thereby reducing workload.

[Outline of the Macon Factory]

Location	100 YKK AP Way, Macon, Bibb County, Georgia, U.S.A
Construction period	Start of construction: October 2022 Completion: December 2023
Commencement of operations	December 28, 2023
Items to be produced	Residential vinyl windows and sliding doors
Main facilities	Resin extrusion machines, production lines for laminate processing, insulating glass, and vinyl windows
Production capacity	About 450,000 windows per year
Total area / Total floor area	Total area: 202,343 square meters (recent acquisition) / Total floor area: About 36,000 square meters
Building structure	Steel construction, Reinforced concrete, one story above ground
Number of employees	250 (as of December 2023)
Investment amount	111.92 million USD (about 15.6 billion yen), including land, building, and production facilities

[Outline of YKK AP AMERICA INC.]

Locations	Headquarters: Atlanta, GA Plants: Dublin, GA; Macon, GA; Dallas, TX; Cincinnati, OH; and Lake Shore (Canada) Branches: Atlanta, GA; Orlando, FL; Baltimore, MD; Greensboro, NC; Cincinnati, OH; Dallas, TX; Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Houston, TX; and Novi, MI
Founded	April 24, 1991
President	Oliver Stepe
Number of employees	About 1,200 (as of the end of March 2023)
Items sold	Aluminum architectural products for stores, residential buildings, and commercial buildings; curtain wall products; and residential vinyl windows