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German firm to grow from here

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It's starting to sound like a broken record: A German manufacturing company has chosen Charlotte for its U.S. operations and plans to add employees here.

Germany-based SINGLE Temperature Controls Inc. has opened a U.S. sales, engineering and warehouse operation off South Lakes Drive in southwest Charlotte. The 7,900-square-foot operation near Carowinds Boulevard will include a testing and repair facility.

The office will spearhead the company's efforts to build a customer base in North America. Previously, its North American customers had to deal directly with staffers in Europe. The company will hire a few employees here immediately and add more as business increases.

National Sales Manager Michael Bloomhuff says the company chose Charlotte because of its proximity to customers in the medical, automotive and aerospace industries.

"Local support allows us to better meet the needs of our North American customers," he says.

SINGLE manufactures precision liquid temperature control systems used on manufacturing machinery. The company specializes in products for machinery that's used to make plastics for the electronics, aerospace, automotive and pharmaceutical industries. SINGLE is owned by Looser Holding AG of Arbon, Switzerland. It has 120 employees worldwide.

The Charlotte Chamber assisted the company with its expansion here. Justin Hunt, chamber vice president of economic development, says conversations with SINGLE started two years ago.