

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-August 07, 2014

Southern Illinois Crankshaft's well planned growth strategy takes another step in meeting the growing demands of the oil and gas industry.

Red Bud, Illinois -- For the second time in four years, Southern Illinois Crankshaft (SIC) of Red Bud, Ill., is in a mode for growth and expanding the line of products they manufacture. Mike Ward, Commercial Lending Officer with National Bank, has worked with SIC owners Mike and Jeannie Schaefer since 2011 to help make financing a reality.

The inception of the current expansion came as a customer request. During a recent forecast meeting with one of SIC larger customers, the purchasing manager at the company requested that SIC consider expanding their services to cover key parts used in high pressure hydraulic fracking operations. Because of SIC's track record of meeting production times, producing a quality part, and keeping costs under control, the customer suggested expanding to meet their growing demands. National Bank took the time to understand the potential for SIC to be successful in these new areas and has enjoyed being a part of the Schaefer's continued prosperity and job creation. Southern Illinois Crankshaft, Inc. will add 14,680 square feet to its current location. As part of the expansion, a new CNC horizontal boring and milling machine will handle product up to 22,000 pounds. SIC has become a precision manufacturer of crankshafts for oil and gas pumps and high-performance diesel engines.



**Southern Illinois Crank Shaft
owners Jeannie, Jeremy & Mike
(not shown) Schaefer**

SIC was founded in 1985 by Michael and Jeannie Schaefer to manually machine crank shafts, for the agricultural, salvage, and heavy duty construction industries. The business started out in a 40' X 40' building in Red Bud, Illinois. In 2005 SIC began manufacturing precision pump cranks and has developed strong relationships with the larger pump manufacturers. With the partnership of Mike Ward and National Bank, SIC has been able to plan out a multi stage growth plan that continues to this day. SIC is currently located in a 13,960 square foot facility with a state of the art line of CNC machining centers. "Our dedication to quality is without rival. We have delivered on our commitments 98% of the time in 2013," said Mike Schaefer, president of SIC. Strict quality control has enabled SIC to achieve an unprecedented scrap rate of less than 1%. SIC has continued to grow by manufacturing pump crankshafts for the oil and gas industry.

National Bank is headquartered in Hillsboro, Illinois with 11 locations in South Central Illinois. The bank can be contacted from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday and 8:30am to 12:00pm on Saturday at 800-717-3991.

212 S. Main, Hillsboro, Illinois 62049 • P: 217-532-3991, 800-717-3991 • W: national-bank.com