



## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Hopkins Continues to Grow – New Kansas Distribution Center**

**EMPORIA, KS. May 11, 2018** – Hopkins Manufacturing Corporation announced today that it will open a new distribution center in Edgerton, Kansas to support the continued growth of the business. The Edgerton facility is centrally located in the Inland Port VIII at the Logistics Park, adjacent to the BNSF Intermodal Facility. The facility will open in June 2018 with first shipments following shortly thereafter.

Hopkins was founded in 1953 in Emporia, Kansas and will celebrate its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018. It has grown into one of the largest automotive and RV aftermarket suppliers through acquisition and organic growth. The automotive aftermarket is among the largest, growing industries in the US, employing 4.6m people. The new facility will accommodate Hopkins' current growth and provide capacity to support its additional planned growth. Products currently being distributed from the Hopkins Carson, CA, Urbandale, IA and a portion of the distribution from the Emporia, KS facility will be distributed from Edgerton. This includes products from Hopkins' North American manufacturing facilities in Emporia, KS, Miami, OK, Tarpon Springs, FL, Juarez, Mexico and Blenheim, Ontario Canada.

"We are excited to open this state of the art facility and further cement our commitment to Kansas," said Bradley T. Kraft, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hopkins. "This is the culmination of a multi-year study to optimize our distribution strategy and simplify doing business with Hopkins for our customers," added Mr. Kraft.

"We have begun hiring employees for the facility, which is expected to reach over 100 team members," said David Moore, Senior Vice President of Hopkins. "People that are looking to be a part of a dynamic Kansas based organization that values a culture based on ethics, caring and competence are encouraged to apply for consideration," added Mr. Moore. More information on open positions is at [www.hopkinsmfg.com/careers](http://www.hopkinsmfg.com/careers).

Not affected by this announcement are Hopkins distribution centers in Miami, OK, Blenheim, ON, Tarpon Springs, FL and the locations associated with newly acquired Tiger Accessory Group.

Recent acquisitions by Hopkins include **Tiger Accessory Group**, vehicle lighting and cleaning products, **Acme Chamois®**, the leader in automotive chamois, **Air Power America®**, the leader of oil extraction technology for automotive and marine engines, **Bell Automotive Products**, interior and vehicle accessories; **Mallory®**, the market leader in Canada for snow tools and in North America for gas station squeegees; the fluid management drain pans and ramps of **F3 Brands**; **Mr. Funnel®**, a simple but effective line of portable fuel filters that remove water, dirt and debris from all types of fuels; and **TowDaddy®** line of towed vehicle wire harness kits.

### **About Hopkins**

Headquartered in Emporia, Kansas, Hopkins is a leading manufacturer, marketer and distributor of quality, innovative specialized towing products and functional accessories for the automotive and recreational vehicle aftermarkets. Hopkins markets its products under a number of well-recognized brand names, including: **Hopkins Towing Solutions®** Trailer Lights and Wiring & Brake Control Products; **Blazer®** branded vehicle lighting solutions; **Carrand™**, **AutoSpa™**, **Detailer's Choice®**, **Tanner's Select®** and **Pacific Coast™** Vehicle Cleaning Products; **Mallory®** squeegees; **Bell®**, **Victor™**, **Monkey Grip™** and **Go Gear®** Vehicle Accessories; **Sub-Zero®** and **Mallory®** Snow & Ice Tools; **Flo-Tool®** Fluid Management Products; **Brake Buddy®** RV tow brakes; **nVISION®** Vehicle Safety Products; **ARM & HAMMER™** and **DUO™** Automotive Air Fresheners; and **Juice™** Booster Cables. Founded in 1953, the company has been guided by the philosophy that its products will deliver meaningful innovation, performance and value to the consumer. Hopkins has North American manufacturing and distribution in the US, (i.e., Kansas, Oklahoma, Iowa, California and Florida); in Canada in Blenheim, Ontario and in Mexico in Juarez, Chihuahua. ONCAP invested in Hopkins in June 2011. For more information on Hopkins, visit its website at [www.HopkinsMfg.com](http://www.HopkinsMfg.com).