



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – September 26, 2017

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## **ST. CHARLES COUNTY APPROVES EXPANSION FOR NIKE FACILITY IN MISSOURI RESEARCH PARK**

**ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO** --- St. Charles County has approved a 75,000-square-foot expansion for Nike Air Manufacturing Innovation (Nike Air MI), a subsidiary of Nike Inc. The company is located in the county's Missouri Research Park in Weldon Spring, near the intersection of I-64 and Highway 94.

Originally founded in 1964 as Tetra Plastics, the company was purchased by Nike in 1991, and moved to its present location in 1995. Today, the Nike Air MI facility is 222,575 square feet, has approximately 640 full-time employees, and produces Nike Air products sold around the world.

"Nike Air Manufacturing Innovation is part of the strong and growing plastics sector in St. Charles County," says St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann. "We appreciate its growing presence, global impact and commitment to our county and the region."

Earlier this month, the St. Charles County Planning & Zoning Commission approved Nike Air MI's concept plan for the 75,000 square foot expansion, and currently is reviewing construction plans. Plans are for a groundbreaking in late October; construction will take about 18 months.

The Missouri Research Park is the first business park in the St. Louis region to market exclusively to technology-intensive and research-based companies. The 200-acre development, which began in 1986, has been a catalyst for expansion along the I-64 high-tech corridor in St. Charles County. The park is nearly at capacity with tenants in addition to Nike Air MI. Natoli Engineering, Inc., ABF International, Federal Aviation Administration, EMD Millipore, the National Weather Service, Zoltek Corporation and more also are located in the park.

For more information about the local economy, please contact the St. Charles County Department of Workforce & Business Development at 636-255-6060, or visit <http://www.sccmo.org/workforce>.

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**About St. Charles County:**

*Founded in 1812, St. Charles County is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, and the state's third largest county in both population and economic share. St. Charles County consistently ranks one of the healthiest places to live in Missouri in the County Health Rankings report published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. It is home to 12 scenic county parks encompassing more than 2,800 acres with additional land under development and more in reserve for future development.*

*With a population of 385,840, St Charles County is home to large employers including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.*

*St. Charles County Government employs nearly 1,100 in more than 30 departments and offices, who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit [www.sccmo.org](http://www.sccmo.org).*