## Nucor Steel Memphis plans expansion for new equipment

By Tom Bailey

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Nucor Steel Memphis has bought new equipment and plans to build a new, 23,000-square-foot facility to house it, company executives announced late Thursday.

The total investment is about \$10 million.

Nucor purchased heat-treating equipment from Conroe, Texas-based Energy Alloys. Once it receives regulatory approval, Nucor plans to move the equipment to its Memphis mill that makes special bar-quality steel.



**Nucor Steel Memphis (Submitted)** 

Steel undergoes heat treatment to improve its strength, hardness, resistance to corrosion, or pliability.

"The new heat treat facility will improve the quality and properties of heat-treated steel we currently produce for our customers," Dave Smith said in a prepared statement. He is vice president and general manager of Nucor Steel Memphis.

"We are excited to be able to make this additional investment in our Nucor team, facility and the Memphis community," he said.



Great announcement today at Nucor Steel where they employ over 470 in the Memphis area. Significant new investment in their existing plant where their average salary is over \$70k.



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The new heat treat facility will be built at Nucor's existing plant in Pidgeon Industrial Park on Paul Lowry Road. The investment likely will not bring additional jobs, but "it will continue to solidify the 400-plus positions that we currently have by expanding our capability to produce value added products for our customers, controller Ben Haviland said.

The Nucor release did not state the dollar value of the equipment purchase or planned construction.

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Nucor Steel Memphis has been operating for 12 years at 3601 Riverport Road in the 3,500-acre Pidgeon Industrial Park. More than 470 employees work at the Nucor facility.

In 2017, the company received a five-year local-tax break for its purchase and investment in another facility across McKellar Lake at 2315 Pier on Presidents Island. The new facility was to enable Nucor Steel Memphis to carry out additional processes,

including boring, polishing, grinding and strengthening of steel products, that Nucor had been outsourcing outside of Memphis.

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Tom Bailey covers business news for The Daily Memphian. A Tupelo, Mississippi, native, he graduated from Mississippi State University. He's worked in journalism for 40 years and has lived in Midtown for 36 years.