



Gavilon and Metro Celebrate Opening of New Facility

Global bulk fertilizer distributor, The Gavilon Group, LLC, and its terminal operator, Metro Ports, officially opened a new liquid fertilizer terminal at the North Carolina State Ports Authority's Port of Wilmington on September 29, 2011. The facility represents a new line of business for the Wilmington Port. About 70 guests from the U.S. Southeast and Midwest attended the grand opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting for the new 4.5-million gallon capacity UAN import facility.

"The terminal represents collaboration between Gavilon Fertilizer, LLC, a subsidiary of The Gavilon Group, and Metro Ports, who specialize in receiving, warehousing and packaging bulk products," said Gavilon's vice president, Ken Schuster. "Wilmington will serve as a major Gavilon distribution hub."

Metro Ports has provided stevedoring operations and terminal services at the Port of Wilmington for nearly 30 years. "Today, Metro Ports reconfirms our commitment to Gavilon, its valued customers, the Port of Wilmington and our local business community," Nautilus International Holding Corporation Chairman, President & CEO James Callahan said. "We are confident that this project will bring long-term economic benefits to the Port, and we salute the NC State Ports Authority for their support during the development, permitting and construction of this state-of-the-art facility."

"The NC State Ports Authority has enjoyed a thriving partnership with Gavilon for nearly eight years – dating back to when the company was a division of ConAgra Foods, Inc. and leased warehouse storage for their fertilizer products at the Port of Wilmington," said NC State Ports Authority CEO, Thomas J. Eagar. "This new UAN facility strengthens NC Ports in our mission to enhance the economy of North Carolina with the fertilizer that is delivered to North Carolina farmers for their crops, thereby providing critical support for the State's largest business."



J. Callahan (left) and T. Eagar (right) hold the ribbon as K. Schuster officially opens the new facility