



Mercedes-Benz

Press Information

January 31, 2019

Mercedes-Benz Vans officially opens training space in Summerville and continues hiring with addition of third shift in 2019

- **The Trident Technical College Workforce Training Center plays an important role in the development of the Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC (MBV) workforce, as this space is used for on-the-job training for new team members**
- **ReadySC and the State of South Carolina continue to support MBV's hiring and training needs through this center**
- **With hiring of the third shift in 2019, MBV continues toward its projected workforce of 1,300 team members by 2020 as part of the plant's expansion**
- **Interested candidates can apply at www.MBVcharleston.com/careers and can [meet MBV](#) at local recruiting events like the Feb. 14 Greater Charleston Professional, Veteran, Collegiate Career Fair**

Mercedes-Benz Vans training space at Trident Technical College Workforce Training Center

As with all manufacturing operations, qualified training for Mercedes-Benz Vans' team members is critical for the facility to deliver the highest quality Sprinter and Metris vans to customers across the United States and Canada. Therefore, MBV with the support of readySC and the State of South Carolina established training space at the Trident Technical College Workforce Training Center. This new, expanded space of approximately 30,000 square feet is in addition to a facility at Trident's main campus for MBV interviews and assessments, and provides more interaction with equipment and systems mirroring what team members will see on the actual production line at MBV.

Specifically, MBV team members receive on-the-job training with the following areas housed in the space:

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- Quality inspections of vehicles
- Robotic welding
- Manual welding
- Classroom-based learning including soft skills training and use of virtual reality and augmented reality tools

“This new training space allows our team members to get acclimated with our equipment, technologies and production processes before they ever step foot on the production line,” said MBV Interim CEO Mark Allen. “This helps us get our new team members fully prepared to produce high quality vehicles at Mercedes-Benz Vans.”

“Partnership at all levels is critical to success and this training center is a testament to the great partnerships we have here in South Carolina. This training space will provide the opportunity to stay on the cutting edge of the region’s increasing workforce demands and make sure the 800,000 residents of Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties are trained and ready for the jobs coming to the area,” said South Carolina Technical College System Director Dr. Tim Hardee.

Continuous Growth of MBV Workforce

In 2015, an expansion of the Mercedes-Benz Vans facility was announced to add a body shop, paint shop and expanded assembly line to produce the Sprinter van part-by-part in the United States for the first time ever. This expansion represents an investment of around 500 million USD and up to 1,300 jobs by the end of the decade, and the new plant was officially opened in September 2018. During the expansion, the team has continued to grow intensively, from 450 team members in 2017 to more than 1,100 at the end of 2018. With the addition of a third shift in 2019, MBV’s expansion will continue to reach the projected workforce of 1,300 team members by 2020.

For the third shift, MBV is specifically hiring production positions in Body, Paint and Assembly at varying levels of skill and experience. Required skills and qualifications depend on the individual position. For all production positions, MBV prefers that candidates have at least one year of manufacturing experience

or have completed the ManuFirst SC Lean Manufacturing Certificate offered by the South Carolina Technical College System.

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Interested applicants are encouraged to apply online at www.MBVcharleston.com/career and to meet with MBV representatives at several upcoming local recruiting events. For example, MBV Charleston will participate in the **Greater Charleston Professional, Veteran, Collegiate Career Fair**. The career fair will take place within the Drayton/Middleton Ballrooms at the Crowne Plaza North Charleston between 10:00 am – 1:00 pm on February 14th. For other upcoming recruiting events with MBV, applicants can refer to the “[Meet MBV](#)” online calendar.

About MBV

Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC (“MBV”) is a plant in Ladson, South Carolina that produces Sprinter vans for the U.S. and Canadian market under the brands Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner. The midsize Mercedes-Benz Metris vans are also reassembled at this location.

Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC invested 500 million U.S. dollars in the construction of a new Sprinter production plant in addition to an expansion of the previous assembly operations. In September 2018, MBV officially opened its new plant, located next to existing operations in the North Charleston area. The MBV expansion will provide up to 1,300 jobs by the end of the decade and is expected to create at least 600 additional jobs in the region through its suppliers.

More than 130,000 Sprinters have been assembled in North Charleston and delivered to destinations in the U.S. since 2006. The U.S. is now the second largest market for Sprinter vans, after Germany.

<https://mbvcharleston.com/> | readySC.org/Mercedes | [MBV LinkedIn](#)

Photos included in this press kit: **001_BodyShop, 002_PaintShop, 003_AssemblyTraining, 004_AssemblyLine**

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