



Mars Petcare expansion in Mattoon to create about 30 new jobs

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MATTOON (JG-TC) — Thirty new jobs are expected to come to town with the \$50 million expansion of a pet food facility — Mars Petcare U.S. in Mattoon, according to a press release from the company's corporate office.

The 65,000-square-foot addition is to expand manufacturing for one of the company's most popular dog treats, Pedigree® Dentastix®, the release said. Construction recently started and is expected to take a year to complete.

"An investment of this size demonstrates Mars Petcare U.S.' commitment to improving the oral health of pets through our Dentastix® product line," said Jim Palkovic, manager of the Mattoon plant. "This expansion is a testament to the partnerships we've built here in Illinois and our commitment to the Mattoon community."

Mars Petcare U.S. in Mattoon currently employs 140 associates and manufactures food brands such as Pedigree® Food for dogs, Whiskas® Food for cats and Temptations® Treats for cats. The plant has been located in Mattoon since 1979.

Headquartered in Franklin, Tenn., Mars Petcare U.S. has more than 2,200 associates who make, sell and distribute the pet food from 15 manufacturing facilities located in the U.S., the release said.