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Yamaha's Newnan Foreign-Trade Zone Recognized Nationally for Export Innovation

ATLANTA – The Georgia Foreign Trade Zone (GFTZ) announced Wednesday that the Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corporation (YMMC) of Newnan was awarded the 2010 *Innovation in Export Award* from the National Association of Foreign Trade Zones (NAFTZ),

YMMC “demonstrated exceptional value-added in their export business through innovative product design, management systems, logistics and innovative technology,” the NAFTZ said in its announcement during its 38th Annual Seminar/Conference and Exposition held last week in Miami. YMMC, a subsidiary of Yamaha Motor Corp., U.S.A., exported \$300 million in manufactured goods in 2008 to markets in more than 50 countries.

Yamaha's Newnan facility is located approximately 30 miles south of Atlanta, in GFTZ subzone 26D. The 252-acre site employs more than 1,000 local workers who produce golf cars, all terrain vehicles and personal watercraft. Over the past two decades, FTZ cost savings and logistical advantages have enabled Yamaha to remain competitive and expand production and staff.

“We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the GFTZ as well as the Newnan and Georgia business communities,” said Phil Trickey, YMMC's Vice President of Finance and Administration. “The benefits we derive from our membership in the Foreign Trade Zone program are an important part of Yamaha's success in Georgia.”

“Yamaha’s facility is not only one of the pillars of the local economy of Coweta County, but also of the State of Georgia. We are very proud to have them as a respected corporate citizen, valued employer and FTZ partner,” said GFTZ President and CEO Julie Brown.

Georgia Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization responsible for oversight of Foreign Trade Zone #26, located in Atlanta. FTZ #26 originates from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, and it includes several industrial sites throughout metropolitan Atlanta and individual manufacturing sites throughout Georgia. As a federally appointed grantee, GFTZ establishes and maintains federally approved Foreign-Trade Zones in Georgia, enabling companies to save money on imported merchandise by diminishing import duties, as well as streamlining formal customs entry procedures.

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