



The ZF Transmissions facility opened in July 2013 and the new expansion is expected to be complete by 2016

CASE STUDY

Manufacturing Facility

Facility at a glance

Name

ZF Transmissions Gray Court LLC

Location

Gray Court, SC, USA

Facility size

450,000 ft² expansion to 950,000 ft² facility

Issue

Rush delivery and installation needed for accelerated construction schedule

Solution

Expedited shipment of 12 Daikin RoofPak™ and 5 Daikin Maverick™ rooftop units (1000 tons gross cooling capacity)

OEM selects Daikin Applied rooftop units - expedited shipment and installation requires helicopter airlift

Issues

To accommodate a major expansion at an automotive transmission production facility by ZF, a Germany-based leader in chassis technology in Gray Court, SC, Daikin Applied supplied 12 RoofPak and 5 Maverick commercial rooftop units. "The building size and accelerated construction schedule necessitated the use of a helicopter to lift the equipment instead of a crane," said Michael Eaton, product manager for applied rooftops at Daikin Applied.

A timing and coordination complication arose when the helicopter was assigned service elsewhere during the planned installation of the equipment, scheduled for late July 2014.

Solution

"Due to availability of the helicopter, we had to move up the ship date of HVAC equipment by more than a week from the Daikin Applied factory in Faribault, Minnesota," said Mike Bledsoe, branch manager of Hoffman & Hoffman in Charlotte, NC, a Daikin Applied representative.

Coordination by Justin Graham, project manager at the installing contractor Gamewell Mechanical Inc. in Salisbury, NC went to rush mode. Expedited delivery of the Daikin Applied HVAC equipment by truckload was made on July 7 and 8 for the early-morning airlift on July 9. "There was no room for error," Bledsoe said. "Gamewell did a great job of installing the equipment after planning the logistics of staging the equipment so it could be lifted efficiently."

Outcome

In addition to Gamewell Mechanical, Bledsoe credits Daikin Applied's Michael Eaton, customer service representatives Carol Sorvick and Chris Stevens, the helicopter provider, and REO trucking company as all going above and beyond to ensure the job was successful and met the tight delivery window. "All 17 rooftop units were set in place within 90 minutes," Bledsoe said.

To complete the project, in August 2014, Daikin Applied will also provide 9 rooftop air handling units to a small facility at the ZF Transmissions campus.



The helicopter positions a 90-ton Daikin RoofPak unit for the expansion facility—17 units set within 90 minutes