

ABBEVILLE

Meridional

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Entrepreneurial Excellence. The Governor's Award for Entrepreneurial Excellence is periodically awarded by the Governor to businesses that grow and provide more opportunity, more jobs, and more commerce for the State of Louisiana. Metal Shark Boats has grown from an employment of 75 in 2012 to 200 employees today. Headquartered in Jeanerette in Iberia Parish, Metal Shark Boats con-

ducted hiring schedule. Founded as Gravois Aluminum Boats three decades ago in Jeanerette, the company initially produced custom recreational boats revered by Gulf Coast fisherman. The challenge of declining recreational sales led the company to refocus its production on military and commercial models, where it has excelled, manufacturing a current average of 170 boats per year.

U.S. Navy and Coast Guard are being built right here in Louisiana with the latest advances in technology to better protect our servicemen and women. Because of all we have accomplished to improve Louisiana's business climate, great companies like Metal Shark Boats are choosing to invest and expand in our state. Companies like this are why Louisiana now has more people working than ever before."

Local company announces acquisition of pipe service

George M. Sfeir, C.E.O. of Energy & Technology, Corp. and Technical Industries, Inc., and a group of companies, announced the purchase of the assets of Total Pipe Services, Inc. of Broussard, a previous subsidiary

of Seaboard Pipe, Inc.

Sfeir announced that the operation will be relocated to the Abbeville Facility in order to boost the manufacturing capability including inspection and engineering and become a full one stop

shop.

The facility is serving the local market and the Gulf of Mexico. Energy & Technology, Corp. is a publicly traded company with stock symbol ENGTE.