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High-tech manufacturing startup ElectraMet expands Lexington operations

LEXINGTON, KY. (May 3, 2022) – Lexington business, government and community leaders came together on Tuesday to mark the expansion of PowerTech Water Inc d/b/a ElectraMet[™], a water purification technology company, with a ribbon cutting and open house at its new 26,000 square foot facility. Founded in 2014 by Dr. Cameron Lippert and Dr. James Landon, the company got its start at the University of Kentucky's Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) and later developed the ElectraMet water treatment system to offer an environmentally superior solution for industrial process and wastewater streams.

"ElectraMet shows the power of taking an idea and turning it into a reality that is making a positive impact on our state and local communities," said Governor Beshear. "As a previous SBIR/STTR Matching Funds awardee, this company's success is a testament to how Kentucky's resources for supporting technology development in the state can be used. I am thrilled about this expansion and look forward to ElectraMet continuing to thrive in the commonwealth."

"ElectraMet continues to innovate in extraordinary ways. Their mission of delivering cost efficient and environmentally friendly technology to remove toxic metals from water is critical. I am honored to participate in this ceremony to celebrate Dr. Lippert, Dr. Landon and their entire team for their hard work, perseverance and innovative spirit—all of which has led to ElectraMet's success and this expansion," said U.S. Congressman Andy Barr (KY-06).

"We are thankful to the leadership of ElectraMet for their continued commitment to Lexington," said Mayor Linda Gorton. "We often see new advancements in technology emerging from the University of Kentucky, which in turn benefits Lexington and our residents. I'm excited about the strength of Lexington's entrepreneurial culture and the positive impact it has on our region."

Commerce Lexington Inc. President and CEO, Bob Quick, said, "ElectraMet is a perfect example of how the local research community can nurture entrepreneurs and help develop great ideas into successful start-ups through innovative solutions that improve something specific for business and industry. Congratulations to Drs. Lippert and Landon on this expansion and thank you to those at the Center for Applied Energy Research who supported and encouraged them along the way."

From its early days at UK's CAER to winning multiple pitch competitions in 2013, including Awesome Inc.'s "5 Across" Finals and the Bluegrass Angels' Launch Fund competition, to raising \$6 million in venture capital just last year, ElectraMet is a true local high-tech success story.

"The Bluegrass Angels are proud to have supported ElectraMet since 2014. Our Fund and many members have invested in ElectraMet from the beginning, and we have greatly enjoyed helping this talented team execute their plans. ElectraMet is a great example of the Kentucky Startup Ecosystem working effectively to enable the retention and growth of homegrown high-tech companies in Kentucky. The Bluegrass Angels are pleased to have played a small part, and we wish the team at ElectraMet continued success," said Chris Young, manager of their BGA Venture Funds and ElectraMet investor and board member.

"ElectraMet is a quintessential example of the importance of Kentucky's entrepreneurship ecosystem development and of the impact it can have on research innovation happening right here in laboratories at the University of Kentucky, such as those at the Center for Applied Energy Research," said Ian McClure, Associate Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Impact University of Kentucky. "The UK Office of Technology Commercialization is proud to have supported ElectraMet's commercialization pathway. We thank the many other partners in the community and at the Commonwealth that played important roles at various steps along the way. We congratulate Drs. Lippert and Landon on this significant milestone."

Through partnerships with the University of Kentucky, investments from the Bluegrass Angels, funding from the Kentucky Enterprise Fund, and multiple grants through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, the growth of ElectraMet showcases Lexington's capacity for innovation.

"Our growth as a company from angel investment from the Bluegrass Angels in Lexington to a full-fledged water treatment provider has been tremendous," explained ElectraMet's co-founder Cameron Lippert. "We have appreciated all of the support from the community, the University of Kentucky, and the state of Kentucky. The move into this new facility represents another step-change in our ability as a company to offer products for a variety of industrial and commercial customers."

For more information on ElectraMet, visit www.electramet.com