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**Great Plains Division**

**Administrative Offices:**  
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**Product Development:**  
Assaria, Kansas

**Plants:**  
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Ellsworth, Kansas  
Tipton, Kansas

**Land Pride Division**

**Administrative Offices:**  
Salina, Kansas

**Product Development:**  
Salina, Kansas

**Plants:**  
Abilene, Kansas  
Enterprise, Kansas  
Kipp, Kansas  
Lucas, Kansas

**Great Plains**

**International**

**Administrative Offices:**  
Salina, Kansas

**Plant:**  
SIMBA Sleaford, England

**Great Plains Trucking**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Great Plains Manufacturing , Inc. announces 2018 closure of Sleaford facility**

**SLEAFORD, ENGLAND** (April 7, 2017) – Great Plains Manufacturing announced today the decision to stop production of Great Plains Products at its Sleaford, UK site and close the facility. This decision comes in the wake of an extended downturn in the worldwide agricultural economy. Current production is to be complete by mid-year 2017. Other operations and functions of the Sleaford site will be phased out after the 2017 autumn season with facility closure to occur early in 2018. In the future, parts and service operations will be continued under the responsibility of Great Plains Manufacturing with support from its sister company, Kverneland Group.

“We examined many options before we chose this path. We know this affects the lives of our team members, their families, and our customers, making it a painful decision. After long and careful consideration, we have determined that the long-term weakness in the agricultural economy has made it no longer viable to keep the facility in operation,” said Linda Salem, President of Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc.

The company will work with appropriate government agencies and the local communities to help make the transition for affected employees as smooth as possible.

“Great Plains Manufacturing is proud to have worked with our many committed dealers, distributors and suppliers for so many years. Together, we have provided quality products and outstanding service to our farming communities. Plans to continue to provide parts and service for these products through their reasonable life cycles are in place and will be shared as the transition occurs,” said Salem.

**About Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc.**

Great Plains Manufacturing, founded in 1976, employs over 1,300 people worldwide. It encompasses five divisions: Great Plains Ag, which manufactures seedbed preparation, nutrient application, and seed placement equipment, and other farm implements; Land Pride, which manufactures grounds maintenance tools such as mowers, rototillers, rotary cutters, dirt-working equipment and construction equipment attachments; Great Plains International, which sells the company’s products worldwide; Great Plains Trucking, which operates a nationwide fleet of flatbed trucks; and Great Plains Acceptance Corporation, which finances the company’s products. Now a Kubota company, Great Plains Mfg., Inc., is headquartered in Salina, Kansas.