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## Cormetech celebrates 20th year in Cleveland

### TVA lauds work of local company

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— JEFF WALKER

By TIM SINIARD

Employees at Cleveland’s Cormetech plant celebrated the company’s 20th anniversary Thursday with a breakfast and a guided tour of the plant for local officials, as well as its customers.

The 30-year-old, North Carolina-based manufacturer employs 400 people company-wide, including 106 employees at its Cleveland plant on Old Tasso Road.

The company manufactures catalytic emissions control systems for gas and coal-fired plants, as well as other industrial concerns.

According to its website, Cormetech operates manufacturing facilities, research and development centers and testing laboratories in Charlotte, N.C., Durham, N.C., Kings Mountain, N.C., and as Cleveland.

Cormetech Director of Operations Jeff Walker thanked city and county officials for fostering a business environment that has enabled manufacturing companies such as Cormetech to thrive.

He also thanked plant employees for their dedication to providing high-quality products to customers.

“We are proud of our employees and proud of our facility,” Walker said.

Chris Di Francesco, Cormetech senior vice president and chief technical officer, said the company is driven by customer need.

He said the Tennessee Valley Authority is one of the company’s most important customers.

“We’ve helped TVA meet its emission control needs,” he said.

Di Francesco said the company is focused on development of its next generation of products which are aimed at eliminating mercury emissions.

“We are always up to the challenge,” he said. “This plant is up to it.”

Scott Cooper, a regional development specialist for TVA’s Economic Development team, said Cormetech’s business philosophy reflects TVA’s core beliefs: energy, environment and economic development.

“Those are our three pillars,” Cooper said. “We are celebrating those today.”

Walker said employees at its Cleveland plant have been with the company an average of 13 years.

“It’s a family atmosphere here,” Walker said. “When you work with people 40 to 60 hours a week away from your family, it’s important to enjoy being with the people you work with.”