

[Skip to main content.](#)

[Contact the Press Office](#)

Jul. 08, 2004

Gov. Perry Announces New Jobs in Texas Created by Mexico Companies

Perry Met with CEOs While in Mexico in June

AUSTIN –Gov. Rick Perry announced today that three Mexican companies, Grupo Villacero, Cemex, and Proeza, will expand their operations in Texas with \$29 million in new capital investment and 95 new jobs. Perry met with CEOs of the three companies during his recent trade mission to Mexico.

“Last month, we joined our Mexican neighbors in making a commitment to tearing down barriers to economic progress and improving the quality of life,” Perry said. “Today’s announcement underscores the importance of continuing to work with our neighbors to the south to create new opportunities, new wealth and a better future on both sides of the border. When we allow for the free flow of commerce, energy and ideas, jobs and opportunity are created on both sides of our shared border. ”

Grupo Villacero, a steel products conglomerate, will expand an existing recycling and shredding company in El Paso and an existing scrap processing facility in Houston. Expansion of El Paso-based Border Steel will have an initial capital investment of \$4.5 million and generate 45 new jobs by the end of 2005. Houston’s Tex Tube is expected to have a capital investment of \$1 million with the creation of 10 new jobs also by the last quarter of 2005

Cemex, the largest cement producer in North America, will invest \$19.5 million to expand and improve its existing operations in Texas at facilities in Harlingen and the Houston area. Cemex currently operates 14 facilities statewide and had assets of more than \$345 million in its Texas operations last year. In addition to other improvements, Cemex expects to spend \$700,000 for maintenance and improvement to the Harlingen terminal and \$2.9 million for expansion of their Katy terminal. These expansions are expected to produce 10 new jobs in Texas by the end of 2004.

Automotive supply company Proeza, a subsidiary of Grupo Metalsa, will invest \$4 million in a truck frame processing center in support of the new Toyota Tundra manufacturing facility in San Antonio. The new Proeza facility will create 30 new jobs by the end of 2006 and represents the first facility in Texas for Grupo Metalsa.

“Job creation and economic expansion continue to be a top priority of my administration,” Perry said.

“Texas is an ideal location for these three business leaders, and I look forward to fostering even greater relationships with these companies and others interested in doing business in Texas.”

An international leader in the production, transformation and distribution of steel products, Grupo Villacero currently employs more than 650 workers in Texas, with more than \$70 million in total assets at its Texas-based companies. Border Steel and Tex Tube posted 2003 net sales of \$78 million and \$55 million, respectively.

Cemex produces, distributes and markets cement, and ready-mix concrete to customers in more than 30 countries. The company employs 716 workers in Texas. With a yearly production capacity of 81 million metric tons of cement, the company’s net sales totaled more than \$6.5 billion in 2002. Gross 2003 sales in Texas alone totaled more than \$330 million.

Grupo Metalsa, the North American leader in heavy truck side rails, is an automotive manufacturing company with more than 3,000 employees and worldwide sales in 2003 of over \$400 million.