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*For Immediate Release*

## **U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Announces Opening a New Marketing Center in La Crosse, Virginia**

Raleigh, NC - U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Inc., an industry leader in growing, processing and manufacturing flue-cured tobacco, will open a new marketing center in La Crosse, Va. for the 2016 growing season. The new facility will service a large number of the Cooperative's flue-cured tobacco growers in both Virginia and North Carolina.

The 161,250 square foot facility is located on 20+ acres and is situated close to I-85 and US Hwy 58. The La Crosse facility will enhance the tobacco buying process for our growers and in addition provide efficient storage, improved processing and grading with an improved logistics flow. This modern facility will provide tobacco farmers an excellent location to sell their tobacco for years to come.

"We are extremely pleased to celebrate the opening of this new location because it represents our continued focus on serving our growers," said U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Chief Executive Officer Stuart Thompson.

"One of our goals is to operate first class marketing centers in areas that are convenient to the majority of our grower base and that are cost efficient. The La Crosse market center should accomplish both of those objectives. We look forward to becoming part of the La Crosse community while helping to strengthen the local business environment," said Thompson.

For more information on U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Inc., visit [www.usleaf.com](http://www.usleaf.com).

### **About U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Inc.**

U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Inc. (USTC) is a grower owned marketing cooperative located in Raleigh, North Carolina. The cooperative produces U.S. flue-cured tobacco grown by 850 member growers in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia. Member grower tobacco is processed and sold as raw materials to cigarette manufacturers worldwide. USTC also produces consumer products for the U.S. market under brand names of Wildhorse, 1839, Shield, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Ultra Buy and Traffic.