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DriveTime steers into Charlotte market

Charlotte Business Journal - 9:52 AM EDT Friday

DriveTime, a used-car sales and finance company that focuses on individuals with poor credit histories, has expanded into the Charlotte market.

The company is opening local dealerships Friday at 4820 Wilkinson Blvd. in Gastonia and 6520 E. Independence in Charlotte.

A DriveTime regional inspection center at 5707 Transport Drive in Charlotte has been in operation for the past several months.

The company plans three more dealerships in the area.

With that future expansion, DriveTime's local investment in construction and site improvements will grow to nearly \$4 million, with its local work force growing to 125.

"North Carolina is a new market for DriveTime -- a market we're very excited about and have targeted for some time now," says Jon Ehlinger, spokesperson for the Phoenix-based company. "We are also excited now to be able to serve the residents of the area and be a positive presence in the community."

DriveTime sells and finances more than 50,000 vehicles per year in 93 dealerships across eight states.

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