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PHOTOS ATTACHED

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*Protomet Officially Opens New Loudon County Operation  
With Community-Wide Open House*

LOUDON, TENN. – April 18, 2019 – Protomet Corporation officially opened its new \$30 million, 244,000-square foot plant in Loudon County with a community-wide open house today. The new facility houses engineering and administrative offices as well as a massive manufacturing and finishing operation. When fully staffed, the new Protomet facility will create 200 new jobs for Loudon County.

Founded more than 20 years ago in Oak Ridge, Tenn., Protomet is a world-class provider of engineering and manufacturing solutions and services. In addition to comprehensive design services, Protomet provides high-precision production manufacturing and finishing for clients in a variety of markets including marine/boating, automotive and homeland security. Each year, Protomet works with its customers to develop new product innovations to help their client's win in their respective markets.

In early 2017, Protomet announced it needed additional manufacturing space to add new production capabilities and increase the company's output. Along with their clients, Protomet has experienced rapid growth in recent years.

Jeff Bohanan, founder and CEO of Protomet said, "The process of establishing a plant like this can be challenging. The people of Loudon County – community members and elected officials – lowered the hurdles to help make this happen. We are excited to meet our new neighbors and become part of this community."

Bohanan said the former Maremont production facility in Loudon County offered exactly what Protomet needed and allows the company to continue its growth to support key customers. It is also centrally and conveniently located with great interstate access. Protomet continues to operate its original Oak Ridge facility in Anderson County where it employs more than 100 people.

"We're excited that we can now call Anderson County *and* Loudon County home," Bohanan said.

Buddy Bradshaw, Loudon County Mayor, said, "Loudon County is extremely excited to welcome Protomet and is anxious to see them get up and running. They are a strong and solid business and will be an asset to Loudon County. They have already made vast improvements to the building, making it much more attractive to passers-by and beyond that, will provide solid, well-paying jobs as well as be an environmentally friendly, clean industry. I eagerly anticipate watching Protomet thrive and prosper here in Loudon County."

Just four years ago, Protomet more than doubled the size of its Oak Ridge operations when the company opened a \$10 million plant expansion that included new space and high-tech automated manufacturing equipment from around the world.

"Congratulations to Protomet on the grand opening of its new facility in Loudon," TNECD Commissioner Bob Rolfe said. "Protomet has been an outstanding corporate citizen in Tennessee for two decades, and it's great to see this progress that has been made since we announced this project less than two years ago."

In recent years, Protomet also introduced a proprietary line of products marketed under the PTM Edge Watersports brand that makes and markets boating mirrors and wakeboard tower components for boats of all kinds. Protomet and the PTM Edge product line have won numerous international industry awards as well as multiple IBEX Innovation Awards for its ski/wake towers and mirrors.

Protomet was named one of Tennessee's "Fast 50" (the state's fastest growing companies). For more information about Protomet, visit [www.Protomet.com](http://www.Protomet.com).

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