



THE PONCA CITY NEWS

PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Operations for UPS Resume After Storm

By LOUISE ABERCROMBIE | News Business Editor

UPS began operations in Ponca City on Monday out of a portion of the Continental Technologies building in the Airport Industrial Park. The UPS building on Hartford was destroyed in the April 8 storm.

Since that time, UPS had been operating out of the regional headquarters in Stillwater.

Andy Grimmer, general manager of Continental Technologies, said after the storm the industry had reached out to several damaged businesses, since they had extra space in their building for a temporary location.

Grimmer said the space UPS occupies is about a third of the shop space at Continental Technologies.

"We feel good about helping them out," Grimmer said.

Chris Davis, spokesman for UPS Communications from the Dallas office, said, "The primary goal of UPS was to provide a seamless operation and the move from Stillwater to the Continental facility was made on the weekend. Ten drivers work out of the Ponca City office, covering area counties. For UPS, it is business as usual. The services delivers thousands of packages a day in the area. We appreciate the support of the community during this transition time."

Davis said he anticipates this would be a temporary location until the former building can be rebuilt.

Laurence Beliel, director of business expansion and retention for Ponca City Development Authority, said, "The significant weather event of Friday April 8 caused major damage to many of Ponca City's industrial buildings, including UPS. By midday Saturday the 9th, a list of manufacturers and building owners who were able to make temporary floor space available had been compiled.

"Continental Technologies (Contech), one of Ponca City's newest companies, began working with UPS shortly after the storm to define the requirements for temporarily locating the UPS operation within the Contech facility. We're extremely pleased that Contech could accommodate UPS while their building is being rebuilt and we're very excited to have UPS back in Ponca City. The Contech and UPS agreement, while only one of several examples of people working together to get production back on line, exemplifies the type of industry leaders we have in Ponca City," Beliel said.