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Gov. Kasich makes a stop at Strasburg business



TIMES REPORTER PAT BURK Ohio Governor John Kasich talks with Schlumberger employees during a tour of the Strasburg facility Monday.

STRASBURG - Gov. John Kasich came to Tuscarawas County on Monday to meet with executives and employees of Schlumberger, a major oil field service provider that has a facility in Strasburg.

The governor met for more than 30 minutes with Robert Drummond, president of Schlumberger North America, and Phil Duda, vice president for the Northeast U.S.

Then he talked with company employees, asking them what they do at the plant and where they originally came from.

"We're going to keep this industry as healthy as we can," Kasich told them.

According to Drummond, the governor had been interested in visiting the facility for some time.

"I've heard about what they're doing," Kasich said later during a meeting with The Times-Reporter's editorial board. He noted that Schlumberger has made up to a \$100 million investment in Strasburg. "They want to be good partners and good neighbors," Kasich said.

Schlumberger began operations on a 140-acre site in the Strasburg Industrial Park on Zeltman and Railroad avenues in July 2012. The company was attracted here by eastern Ohio's oil and gas boom in the Utica Shale play.

Schlumberger provides a wide range of products and services from exploration through production to oil and gas producers.

It has 78 employees at Strasburg, with plans to increase that number to more than 200 over the next two years, subject to business growth in the Utica play.

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