

## **News from U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC)**

Assistant to the Democratic Leader

Ranking Member, Committee on the Budget

US House of Representatives – Washington, DC

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*Timken's Gaffney Plant Expected to Benefit*

### **Spratt Secures \$300,000 for Bearing Project**

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) announced today that he had secured \$300,000 in federal funds to research new ball bearing sensors as vehicle safety devices. The Timken Company's plant in Gaffney is expected to benefit from the project.

"These new sensors can provide direct feedback to on board computers on load and strain, temperature, lubrication, shock, and vibration, and adjustments can be made as needed," said Spratt. "It will mean added safety and performance in all vehicles that use ball bearings - cars, trucks, trains, and planes."

In trains, the technology will allow for power to be generated in the wheels themselves, rather than just in the engine. "Braking systems will be stronger and have improved reaction time," said Spratt, "and safety features such as car locks will be better insulated from power failure."

Spratt said he was pleased the project will likely go to Timken's Gaffney plant, which employs over a thousand people in Cherokee County. "This is a good example of how the government can help nurture the development of new technology that adds quality to American-made products and makes them more competitive," he said.

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