



Louisiana Small Business Development Center at  
Louisiana State University-Shreveport  
One University Place, Shreveport, LA 7115

Serving Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Lincoln, Red River and Webster Parishes

**Hooper's Machine & Weld Service, LLC**  
8822 Highway 371 South, Sibley, LA 71073



Brandon Hooper, owner, Hooper's Machine & Weld Service, LLC

**Economic Impact**

- successful start-up
- created 3 full-time jobs and 1 part-time job
- sales have exceeded projections
- reinvested profits into buying new equipment

Ever since he took shop class at Minden High School, Brandon Hooper has been fascinated with machines. In high school, Hooper raced and built all-terrain vehicles, so it was a natural transition for him to go into the machining business after he graduated. Brandon attended Louisiana Technical College-Northwest Louisiana Campus in Minden with the idea of one day owning his own machine shop.

But after working several years for someone else, this young entrepreneur and father decided to start his own machine shop, called Hooper's Machine and Weld Services, LLC, located at 8822 Highway 371 South in Sibley, Louisiana. Hooper turned to the LSBDC at Louisiana State University in Shreveport for assistance.

"Starting my own shop was a big risk. But it has really paid off. When I first started in January of 2007, I was a one-man operation. In just a year, I hired more people and made a major investment in new machinery and tools," said Hooper.

LSBDC at LSUS consultant Bob Boling helped Brandon develop his business plan and financial projections. Boling also guided Hooper through the process of setting up his own business and provided marketing assistance.

"Bob really helped me to understand the realities of opening my own business and explained the pitfalls and challenges I would face. I couldn't have done it without Bob," said Hooper.

**LSBDC at LSUS Services Given to Client**

- developed a business plan with financial projections
- provided marketing assistance
- business consulting



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