CHANGING PARTS

Pull-A-Part, the auto parts chain, acquired National Used Auto Parts in McAllen and U-Pull-It Used Auto Parts in Hidalgo from Piccinillo Ltd., the company announced Tuesday.

Pull-A-Part will combine the assets of both companies into a retail facility and service area, located on a 1.5-acre site at 7500 S. Jackson Road in McAllen, a news release said.

Founded in 1997, Pull-A-Part employs a do-it-yourself model where people can pull their own parts from end-of-life vehicles and save up to 90 percent of the cost of new parts.

Vehicles formerly owned by U-Pull-It Used Auto Parts are being incorporated into the Pull-A-Part proprietary car inventory and customer service system, the release said.

The new Pull-A-Part location held its soft opening on Aug. 4, becoming the company's fourth location in Texas, along with operations in Brownsville, Corpus Christi and El Paso.

Pull-A-Part employs approximately 20 people and has approximately 1,500 end-of-life vehicles at its McAllen location.

Pull-A-Part locations utilize large lots with neatly organized areas that resemble car dealerships.

A car typically stays on a Pull-A-Part lot for 60 to 90 days; after that time period, Pull-A-Part removes it from the lot, captures more components for recycling and crushes the car before sending it to a shredder.

With the new McAllen location and the recently-announced Pittsburgh, Penn., location, Pull-A-Part will operate a network of 29 DIY used auto parts superstores in 13 states.