



MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.
WWW.MEDC.MS

POST OFFICE BOX 3721
JACKSON, MS 39207-3721

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PERMIT NO. 369

DEVELOPMENTS

is a quarterly publication of

MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX 3721
JACKSON, MS 39207-3721

WWW.MEDC.MS
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DEVELOPMENTS

THE MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2008

www.medc.ms

Elected Officers & Directors:

President - George Freeland

Jackson County EDF, Pascagoula

President-Elect - David P. Rumbarger

Community Development Foundation, Tupelo

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Covington Co. Chamber, Collins

VP - Community Dev. - Christy Knapp

Oxford-Lafayette County EDF, Oxford

VP - Economic Dev. - Chandler Russ

Tennessee Valley Authority, Starkville

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Clinton Chamber, Clinton

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Energy Services, Inc., Baton Rouge, LA

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Director - District 2 - Stephen Surles, Jr.

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Director - District 3 - Sue Stidham

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Director - District 4 - David Vowell

Community Dev. Partnership, Philadelphia

Director - District 5 - Tom Troxler

RankinFirst Economic Dev. Authority, Brandon

Director - District 6 - Cliff Brumfield

Brookhaven-Lincoln Co. Chamber / IDF, Brookhaven

Director - District 7 - Angeline Godwin

Area Dev. Partnership, Hattiesburg

Director - District 8 - Larry S. Barnett

Harrison County Dev. Commission, Gulfport

Director - At-Large - Alecia C. Crawford

Mississippi Power Co., Meridian

Director - At-Large - Beth Stevens

Greenwood-Leflore Co. Chamber, Greenwood

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Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

MS SEDC Director - Sandy Holifield

EDA of Jones County, Laurel

Alt. MS SEDC Dir. - David Thornell

Gr. Starkville Dev. Partnership, Starkville

Committee Chairpersons:

Chamber Dev - Barbara Smith

Community Dev. Foundation, Tupelo

Communications - Elizabeth Fargason Stanga

Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

CEDA - Christy Knapp

Oxford-Lafayette Co. EDF, Oxford

Conference - David P. Rumbarger

Community Dev. Foundation, Tupelo

Finance/Sponsorships - Chandler Russ

Tennessee Valley Authority, Starkville

Legislative - Phillip D. Hardwick

Stennis Institute, MSU, Jackson

Membership - Elizabeth Taylor

Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

Scholarships - Joy Foy

Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

Staff:

Executive Director / COO - Carol Hardwick

Manager, Member Services/Admin. - Chris Hinton

MEDC Member-to-Member Seminar Series



Bill Renick

Tuesday, April 8, 11:45 a.m.

Capital Club, Capital Towers
Building, Jackson

Speaker:

Bill Renick, Executive Director,
Marshall County IDA, and
coordinator of GetSMART

Topic: "GetSMART - The Vision 21 Statewide 4-Lane
Highway Program"

Learn what this private-sector advocacy group is
doing to accomplish the goal of building the highest
priority roads today, rather than tomorrow, in the next
phase of the highway construction plan for the state.

\$30 per person (includes lunch), advance registration
\$40 per person (includes lunch), registration at door
Call 601-352-1909 or go to www.medc.ms to register.

Mark Your Calendar:

MEDC 2008 Summer Conference

"Sailing Through to
Excellence"
July 23-25
IP Resort in Biloxi

MEDC members are eager to return to the Gulf
Coast. We will play golf at The Preserve Golf Club,
go sailing and have other networking activities, in
addition to having many great speakers on topics
that will help you move your organization to being
the best that it can be.

Details will be available soon! Watch the website
at www.medc.ms.

Economic Development Headlines

Congratulations to Governor Barbour and all the
MEDC members involved in creating all these
new jobs in Mississippi!

Moss Point - Tindall Corporation opened its new
\$26 million high-tech concrete production plant,
currently employing 100.

New Albany - Vuteq USA, Inc. will build its newest
manufacturing facility to supply Toyota in the North
Mississippi city of New Albany. The \$31 million plant
is expected to open in 2009, employing 130 people.

Batesville - Toyoda Gosei North American Group
will build a new automotive parts manufacturing
plant in Batesville, Miss. By 2010, it plans to
employ 120 employees with sales of \$31 million.

Jackson - The largest commercial property
casualty insurer in Mississippi, The Travelers
Companies, Inc., will locate a new Claim
Customer Service Center in Jackson and create
75 new jobs for the Metro area.

Senatobia - PK USA will build a \$35 million
stamping and welding assembly manufacturing
plant in Senatobia. PK USA's new facility will
create 150 jobs and will serve Toyota and other
Japanese automotive companies and suppliers in
the state.

...continued on page 6



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THE MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Calendar of Events

April 8 MEDC Member-to-Member Seminar Series

11:45-1:00 "GetSMART - The Vision 21 Statewide 4-Lane Highway Program"

Speaker: Bill Renick, Executive Director, Marshall County IDA, and coordinator of GetSMART
Capital Club . 19th floor . Capital Towers . Jackson . 601-352-1909

April 22-23 Innovation-Led Economic Development Training Course, Jackson, MS

"Climbing the Development Mountain"

Mississippi Technology Alliance and the USM Trent Lott Center for Economic Development

May 8 "The Disney Keys to Excellence"

Area Development Partnership . Hattiesburg, MS

May 13-16 "Creating Your Regional Talent Advantage"

C2ER 48th Annual Conference . Atlanta, GA

July 9-11 SEDC 2008 Summer Seminar . Orlando/Kissemee, FL

July 23-25 2008 MEDC Summer Conference

"Sailing Through to Excellence" . IP Resort . Biloxi, MS

Learn more about these events at Calendar of Events at www.medc.ms

New Members:

- Gloria E. Adams
Community Services Division
Mississippi Development Authority
Jackson, MS
- Gina Burgess
Executive Director
Greater Picayune Area Chamber of Commerce
Picayune, MS
- Elizabeth Bush
Membership Services Director
Chamber of Commerce
Area Development Partnership
Hattiesburg, MS
- Gary Chandler
President
The Alliance
Corinth, MS
- Jennie Curlee
Chief Communications Manager
Community Development Foundation
Tupelo, MS
- Dustin Dabbs
President
Dabbs Consulting, Inc.
Jackson, MS
- DeAnna Dillard
Membership Services Coordinator
Clinton Chamber of Commerce
Clinton, MS
- Justyn Dixon
Global Business Division
Mississippi Development Authority
Jackson, MS
- Ken Dupre
Vice President
The Montgomery Institute
Meridian, MS
- Tyson Elbert
Graduate Student
College of Education
Mississippi State University
Meridian, MS
- Robert Forster
Associate State Director
Mississippi Small Business Development
Centers
University, MS
- Billy Hewes, III
President Pro Tem of the Senate
Mississippi Senate
Jackson, MS
- Allen Hines
President & CEO
Applied Geo Technologies, Inc.
Choctaw, MS
- Troy Johnston
Attorney at Law
Harris Jernigan & Geno, PLLC
Ridgeland, MS

2008 MEDC Officers, Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen



Front row l to r: Chandler Russ, VP Economic Development; Christy Knapp, VP Community Development; George L. Freeland, Jr., President; Marie Shoemake, VP Chamber Development; Dianne Carson, Secretary-Treasurer; David Rumbarger, President Elect. Back row l to r: Joy Foy, Chairman, Scholarship Committee; Sandy Holifield, SEDC Director; Dr. Angeline Godwin, District 7; Larry Barnett, District 8; Cliff Brumfield, District 6; Tom Troxler, District 5; David Vowell, District 4; Phil Hardwick, Chairman, Legislative Committee; David Thornell, SEDC Alt. Director; Stephen Surlis, Jr., District 2; Elizabeth Stanga, Chairman, Communications Committee; Gray Swoope, MDA Executive Director; Lyn Arnold, District 1 and Carol Hardwick, Executive Director. Not shown are: Rick Byars, Past President; Sue Stidham, District 3; Alecia C. Crawford, At-Large; Beth Henderson Stevens, At-Large; Elizabeth Taylor, Chairman, Membership Committee; and Barbara Smith, Chairman, Chamber Committee.

Membership Defined

Wester's Dictionary defines membership as "the state or status of being a member". The MEDC membership is currently at 612 members. That's a lot of people. Sounds good, but what does it mean?

- > Are committees overflowing?
- > Are new programs being initiated?
- > Is participation (this means showing up) at Conferences and Board Meetings higher?
- > What are we doing better since 1992? Since 1995? Since 2005?

The way I see it, part of the definition of membership is missing. To me, we should add the word - involve - which Webster states is "to engage as a participant, to oblige to take part, etc." To be involved shows action - action expected of each MEDC member to do their part.

With our membership at it's second highest number ever (618 in Nov 2007), are our actions reflective of the size of our association? Numbers can be great, but not unless you do something with them. Are you doing all you can to be an active member of MEDC? Check the MEDC website for opportunities available, email carol@medc.ms or call your MEDC district board representative. I'm sure they'd love to hear from you!

Elizabeth Taylor
Membership Chairman

MDA Enhances Workforce Development as Part of Economic Development

In an effort to further enhance economic development within the state, MDA is tackling workforce development – an economic development 'necessity' businesses need to remain profitable and competitive in today's economy.

"Businesses are always looking to improve their bottom line, and so should we," said MDA Deputy Director Whit Hughes.

"Whatever the challenge or opportunity, our intent is for MDA to help lead the charge on Mississippi's communities being able to deliver a high-quality workforce in a quick, convenient and predictable manner."

This new initiative by MDA will be an "on-going, never-ending" process, according to Wanda Land, MDA Workforce Specialist. "Looking at the future for workforce economic development is critical because without a skilled workforce, we can't bring in or grow businesses that can help build a more robust economy. The workforce system is like a puzzle. We want to help them put the pieces together that will benefit them and address their needs."

Currently, businesses are grappling with the issues of finding skilled workers, furthering their staffs'

training and retaining their employees. Constant changes in the workplace, such as an increased use of new technology, demand alterations in job descriptions. Having a workforce that is highly skilled and industrious helps businesses remain productive, and it increases employee morale as well.

This new venture for MDA will essentially provide easy, consistent access to resources available to assist with workforce development, creating an easy-to-manuever, user-friendly workforce system.

"What we are striving for is to let business owners and employers know exactly where they can go to get able workers, such as the WIN Job Center in Jackson," said Land. "We also want businesses to know their available resources right off-hand. For example, if they wish to send their employees to a continuing education course to further their training, any of Mississippi's 15 community colleges are available to do just that."

"Having Wanda in-house gives MDA the expertise needed to take on workforce development issues," said Hughes. "Her knowledge and experience will prove invaluable in the months and years ahead." As the economy changes, workforce development must evolve, too. "I'm not sure there will ever be a final outcome," added Hughes. "To ensure competitive advantages, workforce development must be an ongoing team effort."



Governor's Cup Nominations Now Being Accepted



Governor's Cup Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 Governor's Cup Awards. Sponsored by Governor Haley Barbour and the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) in partnership with the Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC), the awards are designed to recognize outstanding businesses from across the state and raise general awareness about their impact in the local business community.

"The Governor's Cup awards are designed to recognize those businesses that have demonstrated an outstanding ability to influence their communities for a better quality of life," Governor Barbour said. "They represent the leaders across our state making a difference

through their community involvement and economic impact."

The awards will recognize 6 outstanding businesses in 3 regions across the state. One small business and one large business will also be selected as statewide winners for 2007. All recipients will be honored during the MEDC Summer Conference.

Economic development organizations or chambers of commerce may submit nominations. The local nominating entity of each of the district winners will receive a \$1,000 planning grant to support their existing industry and business programs. The local nominating entity for each statewide winner will receive an additional marketing grant for their existing industry and business programs. The award for calendar year 2007 is \$5,000. The deadline for nominations is April 8, 2008.

For more information, contact MDA's Existing Industry & Business Division at 601.359.3593 or WWW.MISSISSIPPI.ORG.

MEDC Scholarships Awarded

Congratulations to the MEDC members who attended courses last year to further their professional development with awards from the MEDC Scholarship Program. Thanks to Entergy, Mississippi Development Authority, Mississippi Power Company, TVA and MEDC for making this important program viable in 2007.

New South Basic Economic Development Course

Amber Eller-Smith
The Growth Alliance
West Point, MS

Lenita Knight
Madison County Economic Development Authority
Canton

Stacy K. Pair
Mississippi Main Street Association
Gulfport, MS

Marc Tucker
Community Development Foundation
Tupelo, MS

Jennifer Turner
MetroJackson Chamber of Commerce/MEDA
Jackson, MS

Chamber Institute

Carolyn Burton
Marion County Development Partnership,
Chamber
Columbia, MS

Rachel T. Mitchell
The Alliance
Corinth, MS

Rachael Seymour
Biloxi Chamber of Commerce
Gulfport, MS

Elizabeth Slade
MS Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce
Gulfport, MS

Lisa J. Smith
Philadelphia-Neshoba City Chamber of
Commerce
Philadelphia, MS

Beth Henderson Stevens
Greenwood-Leflore County Chamber
Greenwood, MS

Carla Todd
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce
Pascagoula, MS

Community Development Institute

Darlene F. Jones
City of Natchez
Natchez, MS

Don Wilkinson
Economic Development Consultant
Horn Lake, MS

Gwendolyn D. Woodson
Grenada County Chamber of Commerce
Grenada, MS

Economic Development Institute

Ron Tharp
The Area Development Partnership
Hattiesburg, MS

MEDC Members on the Move!

This new column will update you when members take new jobs.

Jason H. Brookins
Property Manager
Parkway Properties
Jackson, MS 39205

Bill Crawford
President
The Montgomery Institute
Meridian, MS 39302

Elizabeth Fargason Stanga
Port of Gulfport Team Leader
Mississippi Development Authority
Jackson, MS

Ivy Owen
Executive Director
Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority
Fort Smith, AR

Kyle Touchstone
Economic Development
Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership
Knoxville, TN

Sue Wright, CECD
Economic Development Director
City of Gulfport
Gulfport, MS

If you are a Member on the Move or know of one, please email carol@medc.ms or call 601-352-1909.

Answers to the Acronyms and Initialisms Quiz

1. Area Development Partnership, Hattiesburg
2. Community Development Foundation, Tupelo
3. Community Development Partnership, Philadelphia
4. East Central Mississippi Economic Council, Meridian – 17 counties
5. East Mississippi Business Development Corporation, Meridian
6. Greater Starkville Development Partnership, Starkville
7. Harrison County Development Commission, Gulfport
8. Kosciusko Attala Development Corporation, Kosciusko
9. Madison County Economic Development Authority, Canton
10. Mississippi Delta Developers Association, Stoneville – NW counties
11. Mississippi Economic Council, Jackson – the state chamber
12. Mississippi Economic Development Council, Jackson – your association of economic development and chamber of commerce professionals
13. Mississippi Economic Growth Alliance and Point of Presence, Tupelo
14. Mississippi Technology Alliance, Ridgeland
15. North Mississippi Industrial Development Association, West Point – NE counties

Links to these organizations' websites can be found in the online directory at www.medc.ms. If you got them all correct, please email carol@medc.ms for congratulations!



MEDC Hosts CEDA Awards to Recognize Mississippi's Outstanding Communities

This year MEDC will once again join with the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and the Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC) in sponsoring the Community Economic Development Awards (CEDA) to honor communities throughout Mississippi for their efforts to advance their economic viability through economic and community development programs during the 2007 calendar year.

"We are very pleased that last year three of MEDC's five winners won the regional competition and were recognized by SEDC," remarked Christy Knapp, MEDC vice president, community development and chairman of the CEDA program. "We encourage our members to enter their projects and programs from 2007 in this year's competition. They stand a chance of not only winning a \$5,000 marketing grant and a beautiful CEDA trophy, but they may receive regional recognition as well."

Nominations will be accepted through April 25 from MEDC members for communities who

demonstrate exceptional contributions in four categories: Business Retention and Expansion, Business Recruitment, Community Development, and Community Involvement. All nominees will be grouped according to population and evaluated among other similarly-sized communities.

Based on available funding for this year, MDA will be offering the award winning community in each of the population categories a \$5,000 Economic Development Marketing Grant to be given to the non-profit economic development organization in the area for the project or program. Representatives of the winning communities and the local nominating entities will be recognized in conjunction with the annual Governor's Cup Awards Banquet on Thursday, July 24, 2008, at the IP Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi.



MEDC Community Economic Development Award

Headlines (continued from page 1)

Oxford - Winchester Company of Olin, Inc., will relocate its Military Packaging Operation to an existing facility in Oxford, resulting in the creation of 100 new jobs.

Tupelo/West Point - N.E.W. Customer Service Companies, Inc. (NEW) opened a Contact Center in Tupelo, and Ultralife Batteries held a ceremonial lease signing in West Point to indicate their decision to locate a facility in Clay County. Together, these companies will provide an estimated 380 jobs to North Mississippi.

Clinton - Automatic Data Processing, Inc. (ADP), a leading provider of business outsourcing solutions, will open a new Solutions Center in Clinton.

Purvis - Lowe's Co. announced it has completed earlier announced plans to build a \$15 million dollar flatbed distribution center in Purvis.

Columbia - Unity Homes, a nonprofit corporation, will build a \$6 million modular home manufacturing facility in Columbia that will employ 89 people.

Pascagoula - Chevron U.S.A. to expand Pascagoula plant.

Iuka - Roll Form Group is the Canadian division's first production facility in the United States and will employ up to 100 people.

Read the stories on these successful projects and other economic development news at In The News at www.medc.ms

Acronyms and Initialisms – Test your Knowledge!

We live in a world of acronyms and initialisms, and the economic development profession in Mississippi certainly has its fair share. Below is a sampling of those heard in conversations at the recent MEDC Winter Conference and used in logos to refer to our members' organizations. See if you can identify all of them.

Answers are on page 6.

See if you can identify the following:

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| 1. ADP | 9. MCEDA |
| 2. CDF | 10. MDAA |
| 3. CDP | 11. MEC |
| 4. ECMEC | 12. MEDC |
| 5. EMBDC | 13. MEGAPOP |
| 6. GSDP | 14. MTA |
| 7. HCDC | 15. NMIDA |
| 8. KADC | |

Winter Conference 2008 – "Worldly" Event

Sushi. Global markets. International Protocol. Visitors from London, Germany, Japan.

The 2008 Winter Conference of the Mississippi Economic Development Council has come to a close, and it was a "worldly" event enjoyed by a variety of folks.

This year's theme was the "Local to Global Connection – Linking Mississippi to the World." And, the conference did just that. Attendees enjoyed a legislative reception to open the conference on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at the Hilton Hotel in Jackson, where the conference was hosted.

The conference opened on Thursday morning with renowned chef and author Robert St. John, who got everyone off to a lively start by "bringing it home" and sharing his thoughts on local people and local flavor. During the three-day event, conference participants enjoyed a variety of topics, from MDA's investment strategy to what's going on with the state in the global markets. Bill Crump with Viking Range Corporation shared with the group about that company's international strategy and the success it has enjoyed. And, one of the big highlights was

lunch on Thursday with guest David Copenhaver of Toyota, who shared with us Toyota's brilliant vision and some of the strides they have made in the automotive industry both here and abroad.

Other conference topics included port updates and how businesses can get more involved on that front and a very informative closing session on international business protocol that will be sure to have everyone minding their p's and q's when guests come to visit!

On the Chamber side of things, the conference offered lots of great tips and advice on membership development. Shane Moody, executive director of the Destin Area Chamber of Commerce, shared a different approach to membership recruitment. And, Kimberly Medlock gave the group a great session on time management and getting organized.

This year's winter conference was a "global" success, and attendees got a chance to see the importance of our state's involvement in the global market and the ever-changing economy that we face. The conference provided a wonderful opportunity for MEDC members and guests to fine-tune their skills and their strategies for competing in today's market.

For photos of the winter conference, be sure to visit www.medc.ms

New Members (continued):

Dana Jones
Community Services Division
Mississippi Development Authority
Jackson, MS

Scott Luth
Business Development Manager
Economic Development
Entergy Mississippi, Inc.
Jackson, MS

Joe McKinney
Supervisor
5th District
Lee County Board of Supervisors
Tupelo, MS

Nicole McNamee
Executive Assistant
Greater Jackson Alliance
Jackson, MS

Chad Miller
Assistant Professor
Department of Economic & Workforce
Development
University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, MS

Darrell Rankin
Supervisor
3rd District
Lee County Board of Supervisors
Tupelo, MS

Jeffrey Rupp
Assistant to the President
Mississippi State University
Mississippi State, MS

Amber Smith
Community Development Director
West Point/Clay County Community Growth
Alliance
West Point, MS

Jennifer Stephens
Sales Manager
EDL Labs, Inc.
Hattiesburg, MS

Timla Washington
Community Developer
U.S. House of Representatives
Congressman Bennie G. Thompson
Greenville, MS

Danielle Winningham
Public Relations Coordinator
East Mississippi Business Development
Corporation
Meridian, MS

Greg Word
Manager, Technical/Graphic Services
North Mississippi Industrial Development
Association
West Point, MS

Welcome to MEDC!

Learn the Business Behind the Magic from Disney Executives!

Take advantage of this one-day seminar offered exclusively in Hattiesburg.

- Leadership, *Disney Style*
- Management, *Disney Style*
- Service, *Disney Style*
- Loyalty, *Disney Style*

Cost: **MEDC Member: \$446**
Non-Member: \$496



For info, call 601.296.7500 or visit www.theADP.com.

Heidel Award Recipient

Angela Glissen, Existing Industry Coordinator of the Economic Development Division of the Community Development Foundation, is the recipient of the 2007 Mississippi Economic Development Council's Ray and Jimmy Heidel Economic Development Leadership Award. She will receive a scholarship for tuition for the first year of either the Economic Development Institute or the Community Development Institute.

This award was established in 1995 by MEDC and is presented annually to an MEDC member who is employed in the business development field within the State of Mississippi. The recipient must be a participant in the New South Economic Development course at the University of Southern Mississippi and must exhibit fully developed leadership skills or the potential for leadership skills.

The purpose of the award is to foster further development of promising economic development practitioner leadership skills.

Jimmy Heidel, MEDC Honorary Life Member and presenter of the award said, "Angela Glissen is an outstanding candidate for this award. My younger brother Ray would be very excited about Angela's opportunity to learn more about her chosen profession."

Angela Glissen has been with CDF since June 2006, when she was hired to implement the e-Synchronist existing industry and retention program for Tupelo/Lee County. In the last year, Ms. Glissen has led a successful hospitality program for newly recruited business and industry, including Toyota Motor Manufacturing Mississippi, Auto Parts Manufacturing Mississippi, and National Electronics Warranty Company. She also serves on Community Development Foundation's Public Relations Committee, Industry Education Committee, and the Mississippi Scholars Committee.

2008 Winter Conference - LOCAL TO GLOBAL CONNECTION



Bill Crump,
Viking Range Corporation



Paul Mullins,
State of MS Asian Office of Investment Promotion,
Yokohama, Japan



Jörg Lennardt, State of MS European Office of Investment Promotion, Dortmund, Germany; Richard Price, State of MS European Office of Investment Promotion, London, England; Paul Mullins



Gray Swoope, Richard Price, State of MS European Office of Investment Promotion, London, England; Jörg Lennardt



David Rumbarger and keynote speaker David Copenhaver, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Mississippi Corporation, Tupelo, MS



Sonia Garza-Monarchi, Principal, Garza Protocol Associates, LLC, Houston, TX and President, Protocol & Diplomacy International, Protocol Officers Association



David Rumbarger, Angela Glissen, Jimmy and Joanna Heidel, George Freeland



Alan Bates, Robin Austin, Stacy Pair

Linking Mississippi to the World



George Freeland, Don Roberts



Justyn Dixon, Sarah and Chandler Russ



Taurus Wright, Angela Curry, Rep. Linda Whittington



Representative Mac Huddleston, Steve Pittman, Carol Hardwick



Christy Knapp, Cynthia Wilson and Pam Swain



Shannon Hood



Angela Curry, Beth Stevens, Senator David Jordan



Conference session

2008 Winter Conference Sponsors:

Event Sponsors:

Mississippi Development Authority

Legislative Reception Sponsors:

- AT&T
- Balch & Bingham LLP
- Cellular South, Inc.
- Government Consultants, Inc.
- Greater Jackson Alliance
- Mississippi Band Of Choctaw Indians
- Mississippi Economic Council
- PPM Consultants, Inc.
- Tennessee Valley Authority

Premier Sponsors:

- Atmos Energy
- Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc.
- Columbus Lowndes Development Link
- Earth Consulting Group, Inc.
- Jackson County Economic Dev. Fdn.
- Jbhm Architects
- MDA - MS Procurement Technical Assistance Program
- Mississippi Manufacturers Association
- Mississippi Power Company
- Peavey Electronics Corporation
- Rankinfirst Economic Dev. Authority
- Southwest Mississippi Partnership
- Waggoner Engineering, Inc.
- Watkins & Young, Plc
- Yates Construction/Jesco Construction

Corporate Sponsors:

- Area Development Partnership
- AT&T
- CN
- Community Development Foundation
- CSX Transportation
- Electric Power Associations Of MS
- Harrison County Dev. Commission
- Marketing Alliance, Inc.
- Mississippi World Trade Center
- Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
- Norfolk Southern Corporation
- North MS Industrial Dev. Assoc.
- Southern MS Planning & Dev. District
- Stephens, Inc.
- Worsham Brothers, Inc.

General Sponsors:

- Itawamba County Dev. Council
- Madison The City Chamber Of Commerce
- Mississippi Business Finance Corporation
- Mississippi Technology Alliance
- Oxford-Lafayette Co. Economic Dev. Fdn.

Thank You!