

**MDA E-News January 12, 2009**

**PSL-NA Milestone Achievement, Job Rehiring, Debt Payment Agreement**

**PSL-NA Marks Milestone Achievement; Receives First Load of Steel Coil**

PSL North America (PSL-NA), the first major manufacturing project to announce its location to the Port of Bienville Industrial Park following Hurricane Katrina, recently received its first barge of steel coil to begin pipe manufacturing. Nearly all of PSL-NA's first-year production has been purchased for an end-user constructing a 450-mile pipeline in Florida, thus securing the jobs of its current employees and marking a milestone achievement for the company. PSL-NA has been operational on a limited basis for several months while developing its product to meet strict API standards.

MDA provided Hancock County with \$9 million in Katrina CDBG funds for public infrastructure such as water, sewer, roads, rail and bulkhead for the shoreline. Along with PSL-NA's executive team, much of the success of the project can be attributed to the diligent work of MDA, Governor Haley Barbour, Mississippi Power Company and the Hancock County Port and Harbor Commission.

To learn more about PSL-NA, please visit [www.pslna.com](http://www.pslna.com).

**ProVia Door Acquires HBP's Facilities in Booneville, Olive Branch and Macon; Many Jobs Spared**

On January 5, principals at ProVia Door in Ohio announced they had purchased the assets of Heartland Building Products (HBP) in Booneville, as well as two separate manufacturing facilities in Olive Branch and Macon. Production ceased at the three facilities in October, and Jancor Companies, Inc., the parent company, then filed for bankruptcy. This resulted in the loss of nearly 400 jobs in the three Mississippi communities.

According to ProVia President and CEO Bill Mullet, the acquisition of Jancor's assets will allow the company to revitalize the products made by HBP and rehire many of the employees whose jobs were lost in October. A fast-track timeline has been established to allow the company to quickly resume its operations.

To save the jobs, MDA's Existing Industry and Business Division worked diligently with the bank to keep assets from being liquidated and

ultimately sold to another company. In addition, MDA is providing some funding through the Mississippi Job Protection Act to assist in saving the facilities.

To learn more about ProVia Door, please visit their website at [www.proviadoor.com](http://www.proviadoor.com).

### **Toyota Recognizes Cost of Delay; Agrees to Debt Payment**

In light of the recent news that Toyota will delay the opening of its Prius manufacturing plant in Blue Springs, the company announced that it recognized there is a cost to the state and supplier communities associated with a delay in the opening. Toyota will make an initial payment of more than \$10 million in April 2010 to cover its portion of debt service to the state and local entities and will work with suppliers to ensure they do likewise. Toyota does not want the state or local taxpayers to suffer financially because of this delay. Also, Toyota has agreed to its commitment of providing \$50 million over 10 years to support local education through the CREATE foundation. The initial \$5 million payment will be made in 2010.

MDA worked with Toyota and other officials to help negotiate the terms of the commitments.

Production at the plant, originally slated to begin in 2010, has been postponed until market conditions improve.