

MDA E-News February 23, 2009

Camgian Microsystems, Home Program Funding, Governor's Tourism Conference and Ayrshire Electronics Recognized

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Camgian Microsystems Acquires Cypress Semiconductor Corporation's Design Center in Starkville, Retains High-Wage Jobs

Officials from Camgian Microsystems recently announced their acquisition of Cypress Semiconductor Corporation's design center in Starkville. One of the first companies to locate in the Thad Cochran Research and Technology Park, Cypress had previously announced the closure of its Starkville facility as a result of corporate restructuring. Camgian will locate its headquarters at the facility and will also hire 15 of Cypress' 22 employees in high-wage positions. The acquisition positions Camgian to further build on its research and development partnership with Mississippi State University, and it also lays the groundwork for a possible expansion of the company's Starkville operations in the future. MDA provided \$100,000 for public building improvements for the project.

Camgian Microsystems conducts advanced research and technology development that supports critical national security issues in areas related to intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions. Camgian's new 7,000 square foot facility in Starkville will house the company's recently-established advanced microelectronics division which supports analog, digital and mixed signal chip design. The facility will also include an electronics laboratory for chip prototyping and verification. Camgian's customers include the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the U.S. Army and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. To learn more, please visit www.camgian.com.

MDA Awards Over \$7.2 Million in HOME Program Funding to 24 Communities throughout State

MDA's Community Services Division recently awarded over \$7.2 million in HOME Program funding to 24 communities throughout the state; 17 Homebuyer Assistance (HBA) grants, three American Dream Down Payment Initiative (ADDI) grants, and four Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) grants were awarded. The HBA is designed to provide assistance to credit-worthy families

that are purchasing a home. This program can be used by municipalities and counties, as well as CHDOs, to assist families. The goal of the ADDI is to help first-time homebuyers, especially low-income and minority homebuyers, with down payments, closing costs and housing rehabilitation. CHDO projects allow locally-formed housing organizations to provide down payment assistance for single-family homes or to provide multi-family rental housing for low and very low-income families. The following HOME Program grants have been awarded:

HBA Grants:

- City of Okolona - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to eight low-income families
- City of Kilmichael - \$174,317 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- City of Carthage - \$270,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low and very low-income families
- Town of Scooba - \$175,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- Simpson County Board of Supervisors - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- City of Ripley - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- City of Louisville - \$216,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families to purchase existing homes
- City of Purvis - \$500,000 to provide down payment assistance to 20 low-income families
- Neshoba County Board of Supervisors - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to 18 low and very low-income families
- Tippah County Board of Supervisors - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- City of Sumrall - \$500,000 to provide down payment assistance to 20 low-income families
- City of Bay Springs - \$270,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- Warren County Board of Supervisors - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- City of Hernando - \$260,000 to provide down payment assistance to eight low-income families
- DeSoto County Board of Supervisors - \$500,000 to provide down payment assistance to 20 low and very low-income families
- City of Tupelo - \$250,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- City of Laurel - \$500,000 to provide down payment assistance to 20 low-income families

ADDI Grants:

- Neshoba County Board of Supervisors - \$50,000 to provide down payment assistance for 10 first-time homebuyers
- City of Grenada - \$50,000 to provide down payment assistance to 10 first-time homebuyers
- Attala County Board of Supervisors - \$25,000 to provide down payment

assistance to 10 first-time homebuyers

CHDO Grants:

- Tunica County Community Development Coalition - \$270,469 to provide down payment assistance to 10 low-income families
- Neighborhood Development Corporation (Tupelo) - \$270,469 to provide down payment assistance to three low-income families
- Mississippi Housing Development Corporation (Fayette) - \$750,000 to provide down payment assistance for eight low and very low-income families
- New Hope Missionary Baptist Church (Washington) - \$750,000 to provide down payment assistance for 10 low and very low-income families

To learn more about these programs, please visit www.mississippi.org.

Governor's Tourism Conference Held in Hattiesburg, Tourism Professionals Honored for their Work

Mississippi tourism professionals were honored during an awards ceremony last week at the Mississippi Tourism Association's *Governor's Conference on Tourism* which was held at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg. MDA Tourism Director Craig Ray presented the awards during the Governor's Awards Luncheon with more than 250 tourism industry professionals from both the public and private sectors in attendance.

The conference, which offers professional development sessions featuring noted speakers, is an important educational and networking tool for the tourism industry.

In addition to the awards ceremony, conference highlights included an address from Governor Barbour and a year-in-review video by MDA's Tourism Division. The annual event attracts innkeepers, restaurateurs, community tourism officials, tourism attraction operators, state agency officials, tourism educators and other representatives of the hospitality industry.

AWARD WINNERS

- Travel Media Award for Travel Writer
Kelly South, Jackson Sun
- Travel Media Award for Newspaper
Phil Stukenborg, Sports Writer-*Commercial Appeal*
- Travel Media Award for Broadcast
Tom "Doc" Clifton & Mark Boehler/WOWL-FM "Fun 91.9"
- Community Volunteer of the Year
Dorothy Moore
- Governmental Friend of Tourism
Public Works Department-Bay St. Louis
- Tourism Achievement Award
Tishomingo County Tourism "Trash & Treasures along the Tenn-Tom"
- Tourism Promotion of the Year Award
Greenwood Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Travel Attraction of the Year

- Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
- Festival/Event of the Year-Small
Mississippi Blues Marathon & Half-Marathon
- Festival/Event of the Year-Large
Oxford CVB's Double Decker Arts Festival
- CVB of the Year-\$0-\$100,000
Kosciusko-Attala Development Corporation
- CVB of the Year-\$100,000-\$300,000
Mississippi's West Coast Hancock County Tourism Development Authority
- CVB of the Year-\$300,000-\$500,000
Greenwood Convention & Visitors Bureau
- CVB of the Year \$500,000-\$750,000
Meridian/Lauderdale County Tourism
- CVB of the Year over \$750,000
Columbus Convention & Visitors Bureau
- MTA Member of the Year
Wanda Collier-Wilson

To learn more about tourism in Mississippi, please visit www.visitmississippi.org or www.mstourism.com.

Trade and Industry Development to Recognize Ayrshire Electronics as "Top 15 Community Impact Awards" Recipient

Trade and Industry Development magazine will honor Ayrshire Electronics with one of its "Top 15 Community Impact Awards" for the company's acquisition of ACT Electronics' Corinth facility. These awards honor economic development projects that have a significant, positive impact on the local community and will be announced in the magazine's March/April issue.

In October 2008, Ayrshire, a full-service, privately-held electronics manufacturing firm, moved quickly to acquire the assets of ACT Electronics' Corinth operation and retain all of ACT's full-time employees. ACT had announced its plans to close the facility, leaving its 204 full-time and 50 part-time employees without jobs. MDA, the Alcorn County Board of Supervisors, the City of Corinth and The Alliance received recognition from the magazine for their roles in making the Ayrshire project a success. MDA provided \$650,000 in funding through the Development Infrastructure Program to assist Ayrshire with infrastructure improvements.

To learn more about Ayrshire, please visit www.ayrshireusa.com. To view *Trade and Industry Development Magazine* online, visit www.tradeandindustrydev.com.

For more information on any of these articles, contact us by clicking on the links below. If you have been forwarded this email and would like to subscribe, please contact [Melissa Medley](#) or [Tammy Craft](#).