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Siemens to Locate Distribution Center in Southaven

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) recently announced that Siemens, a leading supplier of manufacturing, transportation, building and lighting systems, is locating one of its distribution operations in a 619,000-square-foot building at the Airways Distribution Center in Southaven, Miss., in DeSoto County. The Southaven facility, which is located three miles from Memphis International Airport, will provide Siemens' Industry Sector with a strategic location from which the company can better serve its customers.

The distribution center will house electrical distribution products, controls and motors. Operations to be performed at the facility include warehousing and light assembly.

The move represents a significant investment by Siemens, and the distribution center is expected to bring approximately 150 jobs to Mississippi. The Momentum Mississippi incentive program was utilized by MDA to assist the company with the move.

MDA Awards Over \$792,000 for Six Improvement Projects Around the State

The Mississippi Development Authority's (MDA's) Community Service Division recently awarded **Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Program (CAP), CDBG Community Self-Help, CDBG Emergency Public Facilities, Mississippi Rural Impact Fund (RIF) Program and Small Municipal and Limited Population County (SMLPC) Grant Program** funds for six improvement projects throughout Mississippi. The **CAP Loan Program** provides loans in order to finance capital improvements. **CDBG Community Self-Help** funds are designed to

address local community needs such as water, wastewater, downtown improvements and recreation. In order to receive **CDBG Emergency Public Facilities** funding, a project must demonstrate a particular urgency due to existing conditions that pose a threat to the health or welfare of a community. The **RIF Program** is designed to assist with the location or expansion of businesses in rural areas by providing grants for infrastructure improvements to rural communities, and the **SMLPC Grant Program** provides funding for community-based projects and public facilities and infrastructure needs. The awards, which total over \$792,000, include:

- **CAP Loan**
 - Carroll County - \$133,876 for a fire truck
- **CDBG Community Self-Help**
 - Benton County - \$92,341 for new playground equipment and benches
 - Town of Walnut - \$100,000 for new playground equipment
- **CDBG Emergency Public Facilities**
 - Town of McLain - \$74,425 for infrastructure improvements
- **RIF Program**
 - City of Magee (Medical Towers) - \$150,000 for infrastructure improvements
- **SMLPC Grant Program**
 - Noxubee County - \$242,110 for infrastructure replacements

2010 Governor's Cup Nominations Now Being Accepted

Nominations are now being accepted for the Governor's Cup Awards, which recognize outstanding businesses from around Mississippi that made a significant contribution to their communities and the state during the past calendar year. Sponsored by Governor Haley Barbour and the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and in partnership with the Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC), the awards honor these successful businesses and raise awareness about the businesses' impact in their local communities.

The Governor's Cup Award is one of the highest honors presented by the Governor. One small business, having 50 employees or less, and one large business, having 51 employees or more, in each of three regions (North, Central and South) across the state will be recognized as having an outstanding impact on their communities. Of those six businesses, one small and one large business will be selected as the statewide winners for 2009. All award recipients will be honored at the annual MEDC awards banquet scheduled for July 22, 2010, during the MEDC Summer Conference at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi.

Economic development organizations or chambers of commerce may submit nominations on behalf of local businesses. The local nominating

entity and each of the district winners will be honored and recognized at the banquet. The local nominating entity for each statewide winner will also receive \$1,000 for its existing industry and business programs. The deadline for nominations is **April 7, 2010**.

For more information, contact MDA's Existing Industry and Business Division at (601) 359-3593 or visit www.mississippi.org.

Mississippi Economic Council to Hold 61st Annual Membership Meeting

The Mississippi Economic Council (MEC), an independent, statewide economic development organization of business and professional leaders, will hold its 61st Annual Membership Meeting on **Thursday, April 15, 2010** from **9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** at the Jackson Convention Complex at 105 East Pascagoula Street in Jackson, Miss. This year's annual meeting will provide information regarding MEC's initiatives in the state, as well as opportunities to network with hundreds of businesspeople from around Mississippi.

Individual tickets are \$65 for MEC members and \$75 for non-members; sponsorship opportunities are also available. On-site registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. For more information or to pre-register for the event, visit the MEC Web site at www.msmec.com or call 1-800-748-7626.

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