

**MDA E-News July 13, 2009****Rite-Hite Announces Move to Horn Lake, State Energy Plan Approved, Business Development Mission to Chile and Peru, Second Annual SEUS-CP Alliance Conference, MEDC 2009 Summer Conference****In this Issue:**

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**Rite-Hite Announces Move to Horn Lake; Bringing over 50 Jobs to the Area**

Rite-Hite Corporation, a leader in the development, manufacture and sale of loading dock safety systems and industrial door solutions, recently announced its plans to relocate a manufacturing facility from Memphis, Tenn., to Horn Lake. The move will bring over 50 manufacturing jobs to the area. According to Rite-Hite controller and materials manager Mark Schwechel, the Horn Lake facility will provide the space needed to improve the company's manufacturing flow and allow for future expansion. Rite-Hite, which is headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., plans to make the move in September 2009.

Rite-Hite employs roughly 1,400 people worldwide and maintains more than 30 representative organizations in over 100 locations throughout Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America. The company has six manufacturing facilities in the United States, in addition to plants in Germany, Poland, Latvia, Denmark and China. To learn more, please visit [www.ritehite.com](http://www.ritehite.com).

### **Department of Energy Approves State Energy Plan; MDA Establishing Application Process and Program Deadlines**

The U.S. Department of Energy recently approved the State of Mississippi's State Energy Plan (SEP) and awarded roughly \$16 million to begin administering the plan as a part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The remainder of the \$40 million allocated to Mississippi will come as the state implements its programs and demonstrates results. SEP will support projects that promote energy efficiency, reduce energy usage and dependence on fossil fuels and create new jobs across the state.

Mississippi's SEP funds have been divided into four program areas: 1) Energy Efficient State Buildings, which will be among the first to be implemented and will include programs to reduce energy consumption and costs for state-owned facilities; 2) Market Transformation and Technology Deployment; 3) Mississippi Job Protection through Energy Economic Development and 4) Administration.

MDA is currently developing the application process and deadlines for each of the programs and therefore is not currently accepting SEP applications. However, information and SEP funding requirements will be posted at [stimulus.mississippi.org](http://stimulus.mississippi.org), and the site will be updated as details about the application process become available.

### **MDA Invites Mississippi Businesses to Take Part in Business Development Mission to Chile and Peru**

MDA will lead a business development mission to Chile and Peru on September 27 - October 2, 2009, to provide opportunities for Mississippi businesses to expand trade and create business relationships in the two markets. The trip will allow for one-on-one meetings with qualified agents and distributors for their products and services. According to MDA executive director Gray Swoope, Chile and Peru are two dynamic and growing markets for Mississippi businesses, and Mississippi exports to Chile and Peru increased 56 percent and 67 percent respectively last year. The United States maintains free trade agreements with both countries.

By joining the MDA delegation, Mississippi businesses can take advantage of administrative support from MDA before, during and after the mission. This includes:

- Scheduled appointments with buyers, distributors, agents and brokers
- Detailed mission guide and customized itineraries
- Logistical coordination including local transportation assistance
- Language interpretation services

MDA encourages businesses to register early for the event as space is limited. The participation fee is \$500, and the deadline to register is July 31. For more information, please contact Rose Boxx, MDA's Latin American Trade Specialist, at (601) 359-3155, or e-mail [rboxx@mississippi.org](mailto:rboxx@mississippi.org). Interested parties can also visit [www.mississippi.org](http://www.mississippi.org) to learn more about MDA's international marketing services and events or to request a consultation with an international trade specialist.

**Second Annual SEUS-CP Alliance Conference Just Around the Corner; Mississippi Businesses Interested in Trade Opportunities in Canada Urged to Register**

The Second Annual Southeast U.S. - Canadian Provinces (SEUS-CP) Alliance Conference is rapidly approaching, and MDA encourages Mississippi businesses interested in discovering trade opportunities in Canada to join the Mississippi delegation at the event. Slated for July 26-28, 2009, in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, the conference will provide networking and working opportunities for Mississippi's economic development professionals and their counterparts from around the Southeast.

To view a conference agenda and to register online, please visit [www.seuscp.org](http://www.seuscp.org). For more information, please contact MDA's Liz Cleveland, Vickie Watters or Marsha Hamilton at (601) 359-3155.

**MEDC 2009 Summer Conference Scheduled for July 22-24 at Beau Rivage in Biloxi**

The Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC) 2009 Summer Conference, *COMMUNICATE. EDUCATE. INNOVATE. A Beacon for the Future*, is scheduled for July 22-24 at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi. This year's event will feature a list of speakers covering a wide range of topics, including: *Success One Pint at a Time* - Leslie Henderson, Founder/Owner, Lazy Magnolia Brewing Company; *Using Social Media to Your Advantage* - Mark J. James, CEcD, Principal, ED Solutions, Inc.; and *The Innovative University* - Dr. Martha D. Saunders, President, University of Southern Mississippi. The annual Governor's Cup/Community Economic Development Awards, one of the highest awards given by the governor, will also be presented during a Thursday evening banquet.

For a complete conference agenda and to register online for the 2009 MEDC Summer Conference, please visit [www.medc.ms](http://www.medc.ms).

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