

One Step Closer to New Jobs and Better Opportunities

The start of Nissan's construction brings us one step closer to providing new jobs and better opportunities for Mississippians. On Friday, April 6, 2001 Mississippi took that step.

The official ceremony to celebrate Nissan's construction took place at the plant site in Canton, Mississippi. The ceremony included an entertaining Taiko drum performance and the unveiling a commemorative stone by Nissan President Carlos Ghosn and Governor Ronnie Musgrove that reads "Nissan North America, Inc. and The State of Mississippi, In recognition of Nissan's first manufacturing facility in Canton, Mississippi, April 6, 2001, Dedicated to the citizens of Mississippi, or partners in the future." The stone will serve as a lasting reminder of the beginning of the partnership Nissan shares with the people of Mississippi.

"Nissan's investment in Mississippi is a great show of faith in the business climate in the resources, in the educational system and in the people of Mississippi," said Governor Musgrove. "For that, we are very proud and thankful." Four thousand direct jobs and more than twenty thousand spin-off jobs in construction, service industries, supplier jobs and contractors will result from the construction of Nissan in Mississippi.

More Mississippians than ever will be able to take advantage of these opportunities. "I believe that by bringing higher paying jobs to our state, we are giving our citizens the opportunity to enjoy a better quality of life," said the Governor. "That means more men and women building their families, building their homes and building their lives right here in Mississippi."

During the ceremony Carlos Ghosn announced Nissan's intentions to develop a scholarship program that will help many Mississippi students further their education. "Education efforts such as this will help to improve the quality of life in the state, and Nissan is proud to have an active role in promoting education from the start," said Ghosn.

"Education is the cornerstone on which our people build their futures and create a better quality of life for themselves and their families," said Governor Musgrove. "We are pleased that Nissan shares our commitment to education and is demonstrating that by giving Mississippi students an opportunity to further their education."

The first Nissan vehicles assembled at the Canton Nissan plant are scheduled to roll off the assembly line in the summer of 2003.