## Remarks for the Nissan Supplier Press Conference November 15, 2001

Good morning. Emil, I'm pleased to have you back in Mississippi, along with the great members of the Nissan team. It's always good to have you here, especially on days like today.

On July 17, in this same room, we announced the first round of suppliers for the Nissan plant in Canton. Since that time, ground has been broken for the Calsonic facility in Vicksburg, and just this past Monday we broke ground for the Tower Automotive facility in Canton.

Today, we have more good news for the people of Mississippi. This second round of suppliers will bring an investment of more than \$110 million and approximately 1,000 new jobs.

New facilities will be built in Canton, Flowers, and Forest, Mississippi. I'm very excited about the fact that we are able to locate these facilities beyond the immediate area of the Nissan plant, and bring jobs and investment to other areas around the state. Our nation was hit hard by the tragic attacks of September 11. Every day, we hear news about the condition of the economy and the loss of jobs; America is faced with sobering news right now.

I am proud, though, that Mississippi is able to announce good news – good news for the people, for the economy, and for the spirit that keeps Mississippi working.

Today's announcement of four new production plants, a supplier logistics center and a transportation service center is good news beyond our state border as well.

The investments in Mississippi and the creation of new, quality jobs send a message that we will not be slowed by attacks on our country and our way of life.

I'm also proud that the majority owner of the supplier logistics center scheduled for construction will be a Mississippi-based, minority-owned company.

Two of the seven suppliers announced in July, Lextron Corporation and Systems Consultants Associates, partnered with other Nissan suppliers to provide the very best products available.

We are proving, once again, that Nissan and Mississippi are a good match.

To each of the new suppliers here today, welcome to Mississippi. We're glad you're here, and we look forward to working with you.

Sometimes, we dream of success. And sometimes, we wake up and make it happen. That's what we've done here in our new partnership. Mississippi... Nissan...

Success.

It's a great day for our state. Thank you for your work in making it happen.