Bell South and QC Data Announcement Tuesday, May 24, 2001 – 10 a.m. Landmark Center 6th Floor

Governor Ronnie Musgrove

Talking Points

- Good morning.
- When we set out to make Mississippi more competitive in economic development last August, our end goal was to create more – good – job opportunities for the people of Mississippi.
- We have made our state more competitive, and we are seeing one success story with today's announcement.
- I am very proud to announce the decision of <u>QC</u> <u>Data, Inc.</u> to locate in Mississippi.
- QC Data, Inc. employs more than 500 people globally and will be bringing 68 new jobs to the Jackson, Mississippi area.
- QC Data, Inc. is a business-to-business information management company.

- They have contracted with BellSouth's GIS Solutions Division and will make their home here in the Landmark Building.
- This is a solid investment in the future of Mississippi and our people.
- I am especially pleased to report that QC Data will be a beneficiary of one of four Advantage Mississippi Initiatives, the Advantage Jobs Act.
- The relationship of Bell South, QC Data and the State of Mississippi is another great example of how business and government can partner to benefit our people.
- Each new business relationship that we develop contributes directly to the quality of life in our state.
- As business and industry grows, Mississippi grows.
- Our communities grow, and our people prosper through productive, satisfying work that allows them to provide a good quality of life for themselves and their families.

- This is a solid investment in the future of Mississippi and our people.
- Today's economy is global it's seamless, borderless and it is technology based.
- It requires an educated, skilled and well-trained workforce.
- And Mississippi can provide that workforce.
- Employers are consistently impressed with the quality of the people who make up our workforce.
- Our people have a great deal of pride in their work, a strong work ethic and an unwavering sense of pride in their work.
- There is no shortfall of educational and training opportunities for workers in Mississippi and employers can entrust their operations to the skillful heads and hands of the workers in this state.

- We are committed to keeping the momentum of this project and others like it rolling in Mississippi far into the future.
- Last year, we took an enormous leap forward with an innovative piece of legislation the Advantage Mississippi Initiative.
- Advantage Mississippi is the new vision of economic development.
- With a broad package of incentives and innovative programs, Advantage Mississippi positions our state for growth and positive change.
- This initiative demonstrates why Mississippi is the ideal place for business start-ups, relocations and expansion.
- We have shown the world just how serious we are about job growth.
- Mississippi is serious about meeting the needs of business and is a strong competitor for economic development projects.

- We are building the future of opportunities for our people a future bright with success and prosperity.
- QC Data, Inc.'s expansion in Mississippi serves as a catalyst for securing additional corporate entities looking to relocate or expand.
- In closing, let me say once again a sincere welcome is extended to the QC Data organization.
- We are truly glad you are making Mississippi your home.