

# **Mississippi Development Authority**

## **FRIDAY FACTS**

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*“The partnership between the state of Mississippi and Nissan forever changes the economic outlook for our state and heightens Mississippi’s position as a world leader in economic development.*

*Partnerships with the public-private sector brought us to where we are today. I sincerely appreciate the efforts made by everyone involved with the announcement recently at the Capitol. Bringing together state agencies, the legislature, local governments - city and county, the Governor, our congressional delegation and the private sector demonstrates what we collectively as a team can achieve.*

*Partnerships are the key to our continued economic success.”*

*J.C. Burns, executive director, Mississippi Development Authority*

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH NISSAN**

Individuals interested in sending their resumes to Nissan can call the employment line established in Smyrna, Tennessee. The telephone number is 615.355.2243. The recorded message provides information about Smyrna job openings first, followed by the Canton information.

### **CONTRACTOR INFORMATION**

Due to time constraints for completion of the Nissan plant, the legislature has approved expediting the bidding process.

The Development Authority, however, will establish a fair and competitive bidding process, including completion of all dirt work related to the pad and additional work related with the Nissan project.

Nissan Purchasing has identified three managers to be the contacts for companies that are interested in doing business with Nissan. The managers are:

Barry Burge	615.459.1861
Ed Thornton	615.459.1410
Jim Southall	615.459.1619

Potential suppliers should mail information about their companies/services to one of these managers. Purchasing will establish files and maintain lists for each commodity. As sourcing investigations begin, purchasing will start discussing candidate suppliers with those appropriate company representatives that will be involved in the sourcing decision.

Information can be mailed to these managers at the following address:

Nissan North America, Inc.  
983 Nissan Drive, Bin 18U  
Smyrna, Tenn. 37167

This *Friday Facts* will keep you updated with any new developments and informed about various activities.

## **NISSAN INFORMATION**

- Site: 15 miles north of Jackson
- \$930 million investment
- 250,000 vehicles to be produced
- New vehicle designs on drawing board
- Over 2-million-square-foot facility
- Approximately 26,000 spin-off jobs
- 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Nissan owned vehicle production location
- Groundbreaking: 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2001
- Completion: summer 2003

## **MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS UNVEIL PLANS FOR PEARL RIVER RESORT**

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has handpicked a development team that includes an Emmy Award-winning producer, an internationally known architect and one of the country's most decorated chefs to make Pearl River Resort into one of the nation's premier travel destinations.

On Thursday, November 16, 2000, the Choctaw tribe, best known for its remarkable economic turnaround directed by one of the foremost Indian chiefs in American history, unveiled its aggressive development plans for what will ultimately become a \$750 million first-rate leisure destination. Many of the resort features will open to the public by mid-2002.

Pearl River Resort at Choctaw, Mississippi –the only resort development of its kind on an Indian reservation – will be a world class gaming and entertainment destination featuring deluxe accommodations, Las Vegas-style gaming, proprietary shows and attractions, recreational lake, award-winning golf and a full range of resort services.

The expansion will join the successful Silver Star Hotel and Casino; Dancing Rabbit Golf Club, recently named by Golf Magazine as one of the best you can play; Phillip M's, Mississippi's finest restaurant; The Spa at Silver Star; and 30,000 square feet of meeting and convention space. The Silver Star currently provides 2,400 jobs to tribal and non-tribal members and non-Indians alike.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI), a federally recognized tribe, owns and operates a portfolio of 15 manufacturing, service, retail and tourism enterprises. The success of these has facilitated self-reliance and astounding growth for its members, while also providing an economic boost to the communities surrounding the reservation.

Throughout Mississippi, the Southeast and Mexico, MBCI provides more than 6,700 permanent, full-time jobs for tribal members and others (more than 65% of its workforce is non-Indian). With an annual payroll of more than \$123.7 million, the tribe is one of the 10 largest employers in Mississippi. In addition, tribal revenues have helped the Choctaw to invest more than \$210 million in economic development.

With headquarters on reservation land adjacent to Philadelphia, Mississippi, the tribal government is responsible for providing its 8,300 members with education, health care, job training, housing, police and fire protection, tribal courts, utilities, and other community infrastructure. Tribal members reside in seven noncontiguous communities dispersed over 30,000 acres in Mississippi.

## **ATK AWARDED CONTRACT TO PRODUCE COMPOSITE AEROSKIRTS FOR NEW DELTA IV LAUNCH VEHICLES**

ATK has been awarded a contract from the Boeing Company to manufacture composite aeroskirts for the new Boeing Delta IV family of space launch vehicles. Deliveries under the contract will continue through 2003.

The Delta IV aeroskirts will be manufactured by ATK Aerospace Composites Center, at its Southern Composites Center in Iuka, Mississippi, a 325,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art composite structures production that opened in 1998.

The Delta IV family of launch vehicles is the latest derivative of Delta rockets that have been lifting satellites into orbit since 1960.

## **AFCI RE-ELECTS PRESIDENT WARD EMLING**

Ward Emling, director of the Mississippi Film Office, has been re-elected to a two-year term as president of the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI). He heads a slate of AFCI officers that consists of: First Vice President Dana Theveneau, from the South of France Film Commission; Second Vice President Pat Swinney Kaufman of the New York State Governor's Office for Motion Picture & TV Development; Secretary Sue Dalziel of the South West (England) Film Commission; and Treasurer Georgette Deemer of the Hawaii Film Commission.

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The Mississippi Development Authority *Friday Facts* is distributed to MDA staff, economic and community development professionals, legislators and other interested parties. Inquiries regarding this publication or information should be submitted to Stephen Martin, Communications Office, telephone 601.359.3555; fax 601.359.3596; email [smartin@mississippi.org](mailto:smartin@mississippi.org). Visit us on the World Wide Web at [www.mississippi.org](http://www.mississippi.org).