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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES RESULTS OF AUTOMOTIVE CLUSTER STUDY

JACKSON, Miss. – The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) announced today the results of a study of the automotive cluster in Mississippi. Earlier this year, MDA secured a team led by ICF Consultants to conduct the analysis as well as to examine the ways the education and training community are interacting with the automotive industry.

ICF presented the results of the study that analyzed Mississippi's current capacity and ability to support future business and employment growth in the automotive-related industries for a group of industry leaders at the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

“As Mississippi strives to create new opportunities, it is important to understand how new industry clusters can and will impact the state's economy,” said Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., Executive Director of MDA. “Armed with the results of this study, the state of Mississippi can more effectively concentrate our efforts on developing a business-friendly and competitive environment that appeals to automotive manufacturing companies and their suppliers.”

Working with Regional Technology Strategies, Inc., ICF aligned a diverse team that included partners, such as Mississippi State University, Hinds Community College and the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta. Dr. Edwin Berk, Senior Vice President at ICF, and Dr. Stuart Rosenfeld, Principal at Regional Technology Strategies, served as the team leaders.

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