Mississippi Development Authority
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Date: October 30, 2001

MEDIA ALERT

WHO: Communication Information Technology Organization of Mississippi –
                     CIT.ms

WHAT: The Governor's Conference on High Technology

WHERE: Clarion Hotel - Jackson, Mississippi

WHEN: November 1, 2001

WHY: Registration and vendor booths open at 8:15 a.m., sessions, which will
focus on entrepreneurs, innovation, academic resources, Mississippi as a location, and a
high tech state-of-the-state review begin, at 9:00 a.m. and repeat at 10:30 a.m.

Governor Ronnie Musgrove will address the conference and introduce **Harvard
University Professor Dr. Michael Porter** during the noon luncheon. Dr. Porter will
deliver the keynote address and host a session devoted to cluster development in
Mississippi following the luncheon.

Editors please note: The following three pages contain a detailed schedule at a glance of
the various sessions, panelists and moderators for the conference.

Governor's Conference on High Technology
Conference At A Glance

	Morning Panel Sessions *Sessions Repeat 9:00-10:15 and 10:30-11:45*		
Panel	**Session Description**	**Panelists**	**Moderator**
1. Entrepreneurs in Mississippi	This panel will spotlight Mississippi entrepreneurs, start-ups and how they experience the venture funding process. Venture capitalists will describe elements of the process and CIT company CEO's will discuss their successes, failures and lessons learned.	**Frank McGrew, Paradigm Capital; David Latham, Delta Capital** – *Venture Capital Funding Process* **Randy Russell, 121Micro; Jai Bhagat, Air2Lan ; and John Spivey, Computer Associates** – *CIT Successes and Failures*	**Kate McNeel, Business Objects**
2. Academic Resources	This panel will present information about academic resources that are available within Mississippi colleges and universities to support the business development needs of technology-based companies. Panelists will provide examples of successful workforce training programs, internship and co-op programs, and research activities.	**Clyde Muse, Hinds Community College** – *Community College Introductions* **Catherine Cotten, Director, Information & Research, Jones Junior College** – *Information Technology Training Programs* **JoAnn Cooper, Hinds Community College** – *Information Technology Training Programs* **Bob Altenkirch, Vice President for Research Mississippi State University, Chairman Mississippi Research Consortium** – *University CIT-Related Research Programs*	**Angie Dvorak, Mississippi Technology Alliance**

Panel	Session Description Sessions Repeat 9:00-10:15 and 10:30-11:45	Panelists	Moderator
3. Technology Business Strategies	The Technology Business Strategies panel will present information about three important business strategies. Panelists will discuss high tech solutions related to computer security, disaster recovery, and privacy concerns for technology companies.	**Ray Vaughn, Mississippi State University** – *Computer Security* **Gerry Printz, Unidial** – *Disaster Recovery* **Grady Garrison, Butler Snow** – *Privacy*	**Brenda Thornton, AmFed**
4. Location, Location, Location	This panel will present an overview of Mississippi location incentives with a special focus on needs of technology companies. Panelists will discuss the types of support available for growth and development of high technology companies and the process companies can use to take advantage of these incentives.	**Dr. C.R. (Buzz) Canup, President, Canup & Assoc. Inc**. – *Technology Company Location Factors* **Mr. Jim Craig, Director, Financial Resources Division, MDA** – *Advantage MS Company Representative* – *Why Choose Mississippi?*	**Jay Moon, Deputy Executive Director, Mississippi Development Authority**
5. High Tech State of the State	High Tech State of the State is an annual presentation of current issues of importance to technology companies. This year, the panel will discuss status and next steps for the CIT.ms organization, and the recently released CIT Workforce Development Report.	**Stu Rosenfield, Regional Technology Strategies** – *CIT Workforce Development Recommendations* **Billy Mounger, Chairman CIT.ms; and Charles Doty, CEO, Lextron Inc., Vice Chairman CIT.ms** – *CIT.ms*	**Billy Mounger, and Charles Doty, Lextron**

Luncheon and Keynote Address 12:00-1:30 **Billy Mounger, Chairman CIT.ms** **Charles Doty, Lextron, Vice Chairman CIT.ms** **Ronnie Musgrove Remarks** **Keynote Address: Dr. Michael Porter, Distinguished Professor, Harvard Business School**			
	Afternoon Session 1:45-3:00 *Dr. Michael Porter Cluster Development Workshop*		
Mississippi Cluster Development Workshop	Prof. Porter and his staff from the Harvard Business School Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness will present lessons learned from their extensive experiences with cluster development in the US and around the world. Following their presentation, leaders of the CIT.ms cluster organization will relate their experiences and pose questions for Dr. Porter's team. This will be an interactive session with audience participation encouraged.	**Prof. Michael Porter and staff, Harvard Business School** **Billy Mounger, Chairman, CIT.ms** **Troy Stovall, Vice Chairman, CIT.ms** **Charles Doty, Vice Chairman, CIT.ms**	

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