

JACKSON, Miss.- Governor Ronnie Musgrove held a press conference, today to give an update on Mississippi supplier opportunities with Nissan.

Since the announcement of the supplier opportunities, the www.mississippiandnissan.com website has received 306,971 hits and more than 4,900 applications have been downloaded. "The response has been overwhelming," stated Governor Musgrove. "We are thrilled to see this great response from people across the state of Mississippi." Nissan officials have received an outstanding number of applications from Mississippi companies and are expecting to receive the applications throughout Tuesday.

Last week, the Governor and representatives from the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) traveled to Gulfport, Tupelo, Greenville, Meridian, Southaven and Hattiesburg to let every Mississippian and Mississippi business know about the tremendous potential supplier opportunities with Nissan. "Our goal was to notify as many people and companies as possible about this opportunity so they would have the best possible chance to apply," said the Governor.

According to the Governor, more than 41,000 Mississippi companies were contacted, and encouraged to submit a supplier application to Nissan for consideration. Applications were mailed to mayors and supervisors across the state and were also made available at the MDA's regional offices. "The new jobs created by these supplier companies means more Mississippians can make the choice to live, work and raise their families right here at home while enjoying a better quality of life," said the Governor.

Nissan will review the supplier applications submitted and contact those businesses that meet their specifications. Companies will have further discussions with Nissan regarding business opportunities during an upcoming supplier meeting to be held in Jackson, February 19-23, 2001.