

Mississippi Development Authority
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Spann, 601-359-6680

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MDA AND NISSAN SPONSOR COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP

Jackson, Miss. – Ralph Malone, President and CEO of Triana Industries, will be a featured speaker at the Community and Business Development Training Series sponsored by the Minority Business Enterprise Division (MBED) of the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), in cooperation with Nissan North America. The workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Nissan Training Center at 152 Watford Parkway in Canton, Mississippi.

Triana Industries, a minority-owned company located in Madison, Alabama, is a Tier 2 Supplier for DaimlerChrysler Corporation and Ford Motor Company. Malone will draw on his experiences with these and other automobile manufacturing companies in a session entitled “How to Build Lasting Relationships with Tier I Suppliers.”

“The state of Mississippi partners with a diverse group of experienced professionals to provide high-quality training opportunities for our communities,” said Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., Executive Director, MDA. “This collaborative spirit is at the heart of the Community and Business Development Training Program and our commitment to empower our citizens.”

Each session is designed to promote a better understanding of the automotive industry and its benefits to the community, to increase business participation with the industry and enhance the skills of its participants. Other session topics include: “How to Do Business with the State,” “Access to Capital,” and “Doing Business with the Federal Government.”

Established in collaboration with the Mississippi Minority Contractors Association, Jackson State University, Mississippi Economic Council and the Mississippi Minority Business Alliance, the workshop is open to the public. Other workshops in the series are planned for later in the year.

There is no cost to attend; however, registration is required and seating is limited to the first 100 registrants. To register, contact MBED at (601) 359-3448 or dfloyd@mississippi.org. For more information about the program, visit www.mississippiandnissan.com.

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