

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Announces Winners of 2002 Governor's Cup Awards

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove announced today the 2002 winners of the Governor's Cup Awards. Sponsored by Governor Musgrove and the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) in partnership with the Mississippi Economic Development Council, the awards are designed to recognize outstanding businesses from across the state and raise general awareness about their impact in the local business community. The program was launched this April.

“The businesses recognized by the Governor's Cup Awards represent the leaders across our state making a difference through their community involvement and economic impact,” said Governor Musgrove. “Their commitment to excellence is improving the quality of life for citizens across the state.”

“We are delighted to recognize the hard work and dedication of these businesses to the economic growth of our state,” said Steve Hale, executive director of MDA.

Nominations from economic development organizations and chambers of commerce were organized into two categories: Small Business – firms with 50 employees or less; and Large Business – firms with 51 or more employees.

The winners in each category are as follows:

Big Business

- Kimberly Clark - Corinth
- Baxter Healthcare Corporation - Cleveland
- Raytheon Space & Airborne Systems - Forest
- Cooper Lighting, HID - Vicksburg
- Delphi Automotive Systems - Brookhaven
- Pioneer Aerospace Corporation - Columbia
- Beau Rivage Resort & Casino - Biloxi

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Small Business

- Tupelo Furniture Market - Tupelo
- Techinfo, Inc. - Leland
- The CPI Group, Inc. - Columbus
- May & Company - Vicksburg
- Mississippi Polymer Technologies - Bay St. Louis

One small business and one large business will also be selected as the statewide winner for 2002. The local economic development entity that nominated the winning business will receive a \$1,000 planning grant for their local existing industry program. The economic development entity that nominated the statewide award winner will each receive a \$15,000 planning grant for their local existing industry program.

All winners will be honored at the Annual Mississippi Economic Development Council's awards banquet scheduled for Thursday, July 10, 2003, in Biloxi.

For additional information about the Governor's Cup Awards, please contact MDA's Existing Industry and Business Division at 601-359-3593.

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