

*Remarks for the
Grand Opening of M-TEK, Inc.
July 11, 2003*

- Recognize Terry Burcham, plant manager /
other dignitaries
 - Zenzo Fujita (ZEN-zo FOO-ji-ta),
President & CEO of Kasai Kogyo
(parent company of M-TEK
Mississippi)
 - Shunji Yokoyama (SHOON-jee YOKO-
yama), President of M-TEK Mississippi
 - Dave Boyer, Nissan
 - David Richardson, Madison County
Board of Supervisors
 - Mayor Fred Esco
 - Dr. Billy Thames, representing Madison
County Economic Development
Authority

- I never get tired of events like this
 - Today's grand opening is another indicator of how Mississippi is moving forward and moving faster

- I'm a firm believer that we should build our future based on what our future can be
 - That's why Mississippi and M-TEK are working so well together
 - We're building a strong future based on what our future can be, and the future is bright

- Perception of Mississippi is changing
 - Old question of "why Mississippi?" not asked anymore
 - Question now is "why not Mississippi?"

- Image of Mississippi has changed
 - Image of a state moving quickly into the 21st century
 - State competing and leading in the global marketplace
 - State setting new standards in education and economic development

- No longer depend solely on agricultural or low-wage jobs
 - Aggressive about creating quality, high-paying jobs for our people

- Putting people to work in highly-skilled jobs, like these here at M-TEK and Nissan

- Nissan and suppliers mean 30,000 new jobs for Mississippians
 - Jobs that will help put food on the table and clothes on kids backs
 - Jobs that mean confidence and respect
 - We wouldn't have these 250 new jobs here at M-TEK without Nissan

- Best thing our children can see on their way to school is their parents heading out to work at a good job

- Gaining attention of other companies around the world
 - *Site Selection*: Mississippi one of the Top 10 locations for new companies
 - One of top 10 states for small business survival
 - *Expansion Management* magazine: 4 Mississippi cities in survey of the 50 hottest American cities for expansion or location of facilities

- Businesses read these industry publications and realize Mississippi has something to offer
 - They realize image has changed
 - Doing business like never before

- Image of Mississippi in 2003 unlike anything anyone could have imagined
 - Image of people working in highly-skilled, well-paying jobs
 - Image of children in classrooms equipped with the technology to bring the world to their desk
 - It's an image of global companies like M-TEK doing business in the state

- It's an image we've worked hard to present
 - It's an image that becomes even more real today

- Will Rogers: Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there
 - Mississippi on the right track and moving fast
 - Proud to have great companies like M-TEK on board

- Proud of the work we've done together to get to this point
 - Look forward to the successes that lie ahead for us