

Spring 2013

## Data Center Site Certification

Tennessee Valley Authority has recognized the Northeast College Site as a Certified Data Center Site. The initiative is part of TVA's economic development strategy to target the data center industry, a rapidly-growing industry that provides good-paying jobs for highly skilled employees. TVA is partnering with local power companies and regional, state and community economic development leaders as part of a data center recruitment initiative to market sites across TVA's seven-state service area. The application for certification was a joint-effort of Jackson County EDA and DeKalb County EDA.

The certification means that the site, located adjacent to Northeast Alabama Community College, is ideal for building and operating data center facilities which house computer systems and components, such as telecommunications and storage systems used by internet search engines and other high-tech industries. Criteria for selection of the sites include accessibility, strong telecommunications infrastructure and availability of reliable electric power.

In addition to the Data Center Site Certification, we are also in the process of having the Northeast College Site designated as an Alabama "AdvantageSite."



**Left to right: Dus Rogers/JCEDA President & CEO, Marilyn Lott/JCEDA Marketing Director, Greg Blalock/EDPA Project Director, Greg Sheek/EDPA Director of Business Information**

We recently met with Economic Development Partnership of Alabama (EDPA) for a consultation to ensure the Northeast College Site meets the requirements for AdvantageSite documentation and data, including environmental studies, geotechnical conditions, infrastructure status, accessibility, size, ownership/control, and zoning.

AdvantageSite is a great program and a very effective marketing tool that benefits us, our prospects, and site consultants. Having all due diligence complete and certified saves time and money and makes the whole process of information-sharing more efficient.

Jackson County Industrial Park was the first site in Alabama to be designated an AdvantageSite in 2008, and was re-designated in 2012. Having two in Jackson County will be a great asset to our economic development efforts!

## Upcoming Industry Workshops & Training

**SAVE THE DATE!**

- April 23:** Maintenance Managers Meeting with DeKalb County
- May 16:** Safety and Environmental Conference
- May 29-30:** AIDT Leadership I Training
- June 5-6:** AIDT Leadership II Training

**In 2012, new and expanding industries in Jackson County created approximately 200 jobs with a total capital investment of over \$76 million!**

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**Save the Date-CEO Expo**

The third annual CEO Expo will be held September 17, 2013. The purpose of the Expo is to assist our citizens in becoming part of an educated quality workforce for the jobs of the future.

The Expo hosts approximately 700 ninth graders in the Jackson County and Scottsboro City school districts, and allows students the opportunity to engage in hands-on activities related to a number of careers. This helps them to begin thinking about which career suits them best and how they can start planning for their future.

The event is organized by IMPACT Learning Center, JCEDA, The Greater Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and Earnest Pruett Center of Technology.

Please let us know if you would like to be a sponsor, exhibitor, or volunteer. You may contact Shelia Shepard at JCEDA at 256-574-1331 or Cathy Mitchell at Impact Learning Center, 256-218-2121.

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Hitachi Zosen for earning the ISO 9001 Certification. The certification relates to quality management systems and is designed to help organizations ensure that they meet the needs of customers and other stakeholders.

Sanoh's seventh expansion is well underway with construction of a huge addition and parking area. When they located here in 2000 they projected 30 jobs, and they are now at 270! This expansion will add 40+ jobs. We commend them on their continued success!

KTNA in Hollywood has just completed an expansion that will add 50% more manufacturing space and several new jobs. We congratulate them on their growth!

**Thanks to our Legislators**



Attending EDPA's luncheon to thank Alabama legislators for their contribution to economic development are (l to r) Dus Rogers/JCEDA President & CEO, Greg Canfield/AL Secretary of Commerce, Shelia Shepard/ JCEDA VP, and Scottsboro Mayor Melton Potter.

**New TVA Officials**

For the first time, the TVA Board of Directors quarterly meeting was held in Jackson County. A reception was hosted to welcome board members and the newly-appointed President & CEO, Bill Johnson. The meeting followed the next day on the campus of Northeast AL Community College.

Joe Ritch of Huntsville was appointed by the President of the U.S. and confirmed in a ceremony in January. Joe has been a friend and economic development ally to Jackson County for many years. JCEDA looks forward to our continuing partnership with TVA.



Pictured above at the February TVA Board of Directors meeting in Chattanooga are (L to R): Bill Johnson/President & CEO of TVA, Scottsboro Mayor Melton Potter, Joe Ritch/TVA Board member, Dus Rogers/JCEDA, Rick Roden/Greater Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and Matthew Hodges/Jackson County Commission Chairman.