



Global Link

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"Three Reasons to Visit New Orleans During the 2006 National District Export Council Conference"

The Louisiana District Export Council (DEC) and the U.S. Commercial Service will host "Adversity and the Benefits of International Trade," the National District Export Council Conference (NDEC) in New Orleans at the InterContinental Hotel on October 30 - November 1, 2006.

During the event, panel presentations and breakouts will be highly interactive and informative and will be an ideal forum for international business networking and trade education addressing relevant and timely topics, such as: overcoming trade challenges; government services; due diligence; tax issues; trade marketing; and finance and logistics. Several trade educational breakout sessions and panel presentations will be held including a panel on tax strategies, trade compliance and the Go-Zone Incentive.

The "Tax Strategies for U.S. Exporters: A Fresh Look at the IC-DISC after 2004 Repeal of the ETI Exclusion" seminar will review an area largely ignored regarding income tax incentive provisions for US exporters. Join Edward K. Dwyer, CPA as he presents how non-public companies will learn how to get a 10% federal tax rate reduction on their export profits--even after the repeal of the extraterritorial income exclusion and larger companies will learn how to improve after-tax cash-flow from profits on up to \$10 million of export sales.

The "U.S. Trade Compliance Laws and the Impact to Your Business" seminar will inform exporters that if you export goods from the U.S., even if your products are classified EAR99, you are subject to U.S. export controls. You can't outsource compliance to your freight forwarders or international carriers and as the exporter of record, you are responsible for export compliance and subject to the enforcement actions associated with non-compliance. Join Larry Christensen, VP of Export Compliance (former Director of Regulatory Policy with Bureau of Industry and Security) with JPMorgan Chase Vastera and his panelists to discuss the government's role in enforcement of these controls and how it may impact your export operations.

A luncheon panel will be held on the "Highlights of the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005" which is a federal legislation passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush in December of 2005. This legislation provides for Federal Tax Incentives to areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma that were designated as warranting individual or public and individual assistance. Summary of incentives include: expanding low-income housing tax credits within the Zone; increases rehabilitation tax credit to help restore commercial buildings; provides additional bonding authority; allows for 50% bonus depreciation within the Zone; provides enhanced section 179 expensing for small businesses; authorizes gulf tax credit debt service bonds; provides for 50% expensing of demolition costs; extends net operating loss carryback; remediation expensing; and gulf coast recovery bonds.

For additional information on the conference or to register to attend, please visit the conference website at www.deconference.com or contact us at (504) 589-6703.

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INTERNATIONAL EVENTS SCHEDULE

- 9/11-15 Electra Mining Africa
Johannesburg, South Africa
- 9/24-30 Mexico Trade Mission
Guadalajara, Monterrey &
Mexico City
- 9/17-20 International Economic
Development Council
New York, NY
- 10/1-5 MS Transportation Institute
Tunica, MS
- 10/TBA Multi-Industry Exhibition
Colombia
- 10/17 Trade Finance Seminar
Jackson, MS
- 10/25-28 MS Manufacturers
Association Annual Meeting
Destin, FL
- 10/28-11/2 WTCA General Assembly
Istanbul, Turkey
- 10/30-11/1 National DEC Conference
New Orleans, LA
- 11/TBA Central America Trade
Mission
Central America
- 11/16 MSWTC Annual Meeting
Jackson, MS

Call 601-353-0909 for event details
or go online at www.mswtc.org.

Summer Luncheon Draws Big Crowd



Featured Speaker, Jay Moon, presenting during the MSWTC Summer Luncheon. Emad Al-Turk, President of the MSWTC Advisory Board, seated to his left.



MSWTC Advisory Board members accept certificates for distinguished service. From left to right: Valerie Adams, John Dean, Dr. Deirdre McGowan, Heidi Herbert, and Andy Taggart.

The Mississippi World Trade Center held its summer luncheon on August 16, 2006, at the Country Club of Jackson. Attendees were treated to a spectacular view overlooking the golf course, delicious cuisine, and piano music performed by Jimmy Jarratt. The event was attended by almost 80 individuals, with representation from both the private and public sectors.

To kick-off the event, Barbara Travis, MSWTC Executive Director, gave a special presentation honoring the MSWTC advisory board members. Mrs. Travis awarded Emad Al-Turk, President of the Advisory Board, a certificate for his dedicated service. Mr. Al-Turk then presented certificates to the additional advisory board members in attendance.

The Keynote speaker, Jay C. Moon, President and CEO of the Mississippi Manufacturers Association, delivered the luncheon topic, "China - An Economy in Transition". Earlier this year, Moon, who is a member of the Society of International Business Fellows, toured Mainland China with the exclusive group. The trip provided Moon the opportunity to meet with numerous high-ranking government officials and influential business leaders. During the luncheon, Mr. Moon addressed several of the opportunities and threats that a growing Chinese economy presents to Mississippi companies. Moon strongly believes that while China is not going away, Mississippi businesses can still aggressively compete.

The MSWTC received a great deal of positive feedback regarding this year's summer luncheon and would like to thank all who helped to make this event a success.

E.U. Delegate Visits MSWTC



(Left to Right) Dr. Janos Radványi, Barbara Travis and Ambassador Angelos Pangratis during a visit to the MSWTC.

The Mississippi World Trade Center was recently visited by Ambassador Angelos Pangratis, former Ambassador and Head of Delegation for the European Commission's Mission to Argentina and current Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union Commission to the United States in Washington D.C. Barbara Travis, Executive Director of the Mississippi World Trade Center, and Ambassador Pangratis used this opportunity to discuss various economic issues that would benefit both Mississippi and the E.U.

Ambassador Pangratis was the guest speaker at the Executive Lecture Forum (ELF) luncheon on August 10. Hosted by Dr. Radványi, Chair of International Securities Studies at Mississippi State, the ELF luncheon and lecture series is held at the University Club in Jackson. Ambassador Pangratis briefed the audience on "The Future of E.U.-U.S. Eco-

conomic and Political Relationship."

Ambassador Pangratis' trip to Mississippi also included meetings with Governor Haley Barbour and other leading government officials and prominent business leaders.

MS Water Resources Conference a Success



(Left to Right) Col. Peter Taylor, Col. Albert Bleakley, and Col. Anthony Vesay delivered Hurricane Katrina rebuilding updates for the districts they represent.

The Mississippi Water Resources Association's (MWRA) Annual Conference convened on August 2-4, 2006, at the Imperial Palace Hotel/Casino in Biloxi. The morning session, on August 3, started with an update regarding the Hurricane Katrina rebuilding efforts. Three speakers from the Army Corps of Engineers, Col. Albert Bleakley, Deputy Commander and Secretary of the Mississippi River Commission, Col. Anthony Vesay, Commander and District Engineer of the Vicksburg District, and Col. Peter Taylor, Commander and District Engineer of the Mobile District, offered detailed presentations describing the obstacles that have been resolved and the persistent challenges the state's waterways continue to face after the hurricane. The afternoon session followed with topics that included: *Wetlands & Economic Development*, *A Status Report on the Gulf Regional Master Plan in Terms of Water Supply*, and *The Future of Freight - Challenges and Opportunities*.



Keynote speaker, Wayne Brown, presenting during MWRA Annual Conference luncheon. Jeff Ballweber, MWRA President, is sitting on the right.

During the luncheon, the MWRA continued its tradition of providing a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school graduating senior who has shown leadership, academic excellence, community involvement, and an interest in river studies. This year's winner of the 2006 River Studies Scholarship was awarded to Betsy Crawley of Vicksburg High School. State Senator Billy Hewes presented the scholarship to Crawley. Following the scholarship ceremony, the luncheon Keynote speaker, Wayne Brown, Commissioner of Transportation of the Southern District, briefed the audience on future issues concerning the inevitable expansion of Mississippi's transportation infrastructure.

Attendees of the MWRA Annual Conference also had the opportunity to tour the Pascagoula Port, visit the Walter Anderson Museum, and enjoy an elegant reception at the Ocean Springs Community Center. Dr. Deirdre McGowan, MWRA Executive Director and MSWTC Advisory Board Member, organized the event. The MSWTC attended and entered a booth at the conference.

Member Spotlight



Andy Taggart

Taggart Co-Authors Book

Andy Taggart - Madison County Supervisor, former chief of staff to former Governor Kirk Fordice, and MSWTC Advisory Board Member - has collaborated with consultant Jere Nash, former chief of staff to former Governor Ray Mabus, on a new book entitled "Mississippi Politics: The Struggle for Power, 1976-2006." Published by the University Press of Mississippi, the 320-page hardcover book will be released in November as a first literary effort for both Taggart and Nash. Acclaimed novelist John Grisham wrote the foreword to the non-fiction volume.

Export Finance Seminar

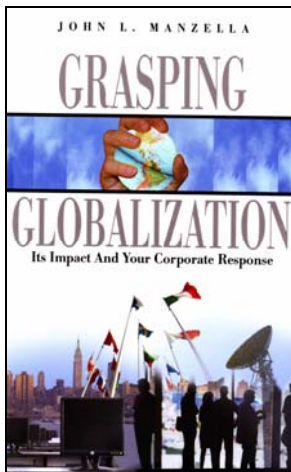


On October 17, the Mississippi World Trade Center will present “Secrets of Successful Trade Financing” an intensive one-day seminar covering the fundamentals of export finance. During the workshop, attendees will gain a clearer understanding of how to utilize financing tools such as letters of credit and government resources; offer competitive terms and yet receive payment upon shipment; protect balance sheets from the risks of international trade; and identify creditworthy prospects.

This will be an extremely useful event for anyone responsible for export decisions: CEOs, CFOs, International Sales and Marketing executives, Export Managers, Controllers, Accountants, Finance Officers, and Credit Managers. The seminar will be taught by Chip Thomas, Director of Training for *The American*

Export Training Institute (AETI), which is noted as America’s foremost resource for international trade transactions since 1995. Registration will be limited. For more information contact the Mississippi World Trade Center at 601-353-0909, or e-mail Ann Atkins at aatkins@mswtc.org.

Quarterly Book Report



Review from the Cover:

In our ultra-competitive world of new global realities, succeeding in business isn't easy. It requires tough decisions that sometimes involve moving factories to China or outsourcing services to India. But in our current environment of fear and suspicion, these responses often create even more difficulties when poorly communicated to the media, policymakers, employees and investors.

The result: bad press, policymakers running for cover, low employee moral and decreased investor confidence. *Grasping Globalization* reveals the real impact of globalization and explains how executives can more effectively communicate their corporate responses to achieve greater understanding, acceptance, and support.

MSWTC Rating: **** Quick read; thought-provoking content.

Welcome New Members!

Secretary of State Eric Clark

Terry Liner, Liner Services International Inc.