

MISSISSIPPI WORLD TRADE CENTER

News



PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INVESTMENT AND TOURISM

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Alan Moore

Alan Moore Named MSWTC Board President

At a luncheon and officer installation ceremony held at the Mississippi World Trade Center’s winter meeting in Jackson, Immediate Past-President Joe Waggoner recognized the 2008 achievements of the organization and presented appreciation plaques to Board Members. Afterward he passed the president’s ceremonial gavel to Alan Moore signifying Moore’s new position as President of the Board of Directors for 2009. Moore opened his acceptance remarks by saying “I am both happy and honored to accept the President’s gavel for the coming year. I pledge to you, the Board, and the members of this organization that I will dedicate myself to following your lead in making the MS World Trade Center even better and stronger than when I came here.”

He continued with a brief summary of the mission and history of the MSWTC. “It’s been almost eight years since the Mississippi World Trade Center opened its doors as a new public-private partnership focusing on global business development. Today we recognize its successful transformation into a viable and respected economic development organization working with partners across the state to help Mississippi’s small and medium companies become more knowledgeable about international trade and more efficient and profitable in their international business endeavors.”

President Moore continued with a salute to past leadership, his fellow Board members and MSWTC staff. “This couldn’t and didn’t happen all by itself. It happened because of superior leadership by individuals who believe in the World Trade Center concept and committed themselves to making it work in Mississippi. Five Board Presidents have gone before me providing vision and guidance that have been instrumental in helping the Mississippi World Trade Center reach its goals. Each of them demonstrated strong personal involvement that supported the growth and development of this organization. Joe Waggoner is no different. He served for two years in this position and accepted the responsibility with great enthusiasm and a targeted focus on growing the membership. He will be a hard act to follow.”

In closing, other new officers and two new Board members were introduced. John Hendrix, Director of Economic Development for the MS Band of Choctaw Indians will serve as Vice President; John Dean, President and CEO of LAND-MART/Dean Land and Realty, will serve as Secretary/Treasurer. Courtland Gray, Executive Vice President of Peavey Electronics, and Arnie Williams, Director of Economic Development for MS Power Company were welcomed as newly-elected members of the Board of Directors.

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To submit suggestions or story ideas, please call Gina at 601-353-0909.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS SCHEDULE

- 2/6-13 Multi-Sector Mission Vancouver, BC
- 2/25 Doing Business in Canada & Mexico Jackson, MS
- 3/17-19 Americana 2009 Montreal, Quebec
- 3/18-30 China International Furniture Fair (CIFF) & Interzum Trade Mission Guangzhou, China
- 3/TBA Multi-Industry, Expocomer Panama City, Panama
- 4/TBA Central America Multi-Industry Expo & Trade Mission Guatemala & Honduras
- 4/1-4 International Security Conference & Exposition Las Vegas, NV
- 4/21-23 Dubai Wood Show Dubai, UAE
- 5/20 MSWTC Board Meeting & Global Connect Lunch Series #2 Jackson, MS

CALL 601-353-0909 FOR EVENT DETAILS OR GO ONLINE AT WWW.MSWTC.ORG.



Exporting to the Middle East & North Africa

The Mississippi Export Assistance Center recently hosted a “Doing Business in the Middle East and North Africa” seminar at the Mississippi World Trade Center. A diverse group of speakers shared information on the opportunities for trade and investment in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

Participants for the event were Kam Shah of Middle East/North Africa Business Information Center in Washington, DC; John Johnson of Export-Import Bank of the

United States in Houston, TX; and Steve Tuttle and Charlotte Patterson of Mallory Alexander International Logistics in Memphis, TN. The topics discussed during the seminar included an overview of the MENA market, market entry strategies, trade statistics, export trends, methods of shipping, and the necessary documents related to foreign trade in MENA. This highly informative half-day session was followed up by one-on-one company consultations with the guest speakers.



Above: Attendees listen intently to speaker John Johnson of Ex-Im Bank during the seminar

TRADE LEADS & Business Matchmaking

Highlights of opportunities available with Delaware businesses are provided by WTC Delaware. Most are from companies looking to export products, but there are also leads from companies providing services to international customers. For details on these or a complete listing of leads, contact Gina Regan at 601-353-0909 or rregan@mswtc.org.

Lead 1

Type: Sell to Distributors, Export Trading/Mgmt Companies

Product: Logistics Services

Description: This company is ranked #19 of all freight brokers in the nation. Core services include truckload, less than truck load, freight management services/software, freight audit and payment, and local DE port services. These services are provided throughout the U.S. and into Canada and Mexico.

Lead 2

Type: Sell to Agents, Sales Reps and Direct Sale to end-users

Product: Testing and Development Services

Description: Engineering plastics technology consulting, testing and development company

Lead 3

Type: Sell to end-users

Product: Services for Life Science Industry

Description: Scientific Software, Research Instruments, Chemical Reagents, Biotechnology Products, Scientific E-commerce, Biotech Portals

Annual MIC Breakfast at Old Capitol Inn

The 2009 Annual Legislative Breakfast sponsored by the MS Intermodal Council, the MS Water Resources Association, the MS Public Transit Association, the MS Road Builders Association, the MS Railroad Association, the MS Airports Association, and other transportation interests was held on February 5, at the Old Capitol Inn in Jackson.



This breakfast has become a traditional event for state and local officials, legislators, private sector companies, and individuals interested in transportation issues. The breakfast, as always was well attended by legislative leaders, senior officials from MDOT, and others. Speakers this year included the chairs of all transportation related legislative committees and numerous MDOT officials. Attendees learned about the importance of multimodal transportation and the necessity for all means of transportation to work together.

Photographs at right:

1. 2009 Board of Directors:

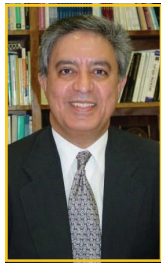
Bottom Row (L to R) are Arnie Williams, Valerie Adams, Liz Cleveland, Liza Looser, Dr. O.A. Cleveland, and John Hendrix.

Top Row (L to R) are John Dean, Alan Moore, Joe Waggoner, Courtland Gray, and Jim McArthur. Not pictured are Cyndi Saia and Dr. Deirdre McGowan.

2. John Dean (right) and Dr. O.A. Cleveland (middle) welcome new MSWTC Board Member, Arnie Williams (left)

3. Networking at the Winter Quarter Luncheon

4. Special guest Scotty Colson, Alabama State Coordinator for Sister Cities, addresses luncheon attendees



Dr. Farhang Niroomand Named Dean of UHV's School of Business

Long-time MSWTC member, Dr. Farhang Niroomand will join the University of Houston-Victoria in Texas as Dean of the School of Business Administration. The highly regarded economics and international business professor recently received the Award for Excellence in Trade Education from the Mississippi World Trade Center for his contributions to the state's business community in international trade programs.

Niroomand will continue teaching at USM through early summer before moving to Houston. Congratulations to Dr. Niroomand for his new position!

Want to Get More Involved???

Sign up for a Committee today to help guide the MSWTC's program of work.

- Resource Development
- Intermodal Transportation
- International Business Development
- International Tourism & Cultural Awareness

For more information and a description of each Committee, email aatkins@mswtc.org.

MSWTC WINTER QUARTER LUNCHEON



2009 MSWTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

Alan Moore - MSWTC Board President

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC

John Hendrix CEcD - MSWTC Board Vice President

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

John Dean - MSWTC Board Secretary/Treasurer

LANDMART/Dean Land & Realty Company

Valerie Adams

Trustmark National Bank

Liz Cleveland

Mississippi Development Authority

Dr. O.A. Cleveland

ECOIL Technologies/UMGAS-CAITAF GROUP

Courtland Gray

Peavey Electronics

Liza Looser

The Cirlot Agency

MISSISSIPPI WORLD TRADE CENTER

Jim McArthur

Yates Construction

Dr. Deirdre McGowan

Mississippi Water Resources Association

Cyndi Saia

Viking Range Corporation

Joe A. Waggoner

Waggoner Engineering, Inc.

Arnie Williams

Mississippi Power Company