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The available Sites and Buildings on the MTIDA website is now fully functional. This integrated database platform combines geographic and site information to provide fast reliable information. Aerial photography and regional mapping highlight all available infra-

structure for industrial buildings and property. Complete community census, demographic profiles, industrial profiles, and manufacturing directory data is also provided. This TVA sponsored site can be viewed in its entirety by going to www.tvasites.com.

SATURN GETS \$400 MILLION VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

The Saturn plant in Spring Hill will get a \$400 to \$500 million equipment and tooling upgrade. The company will spend the money on a new paint shop, robots and other equipment and tools needed to let the factory produce the replacements for the Ion and Vue later this decade. The production line also would be capable of making other GM products based on the same basic parts. The additional spending will boost GM's investment in Spring Hill to almost \$4 billion since 1985. New investment in Spring Hill adds to a recent automotive trend. Much of the automotive industry's growth has been in the South over the past two decades. In the 19 years since GM picked Spring Hill as the site of its first Saturn plant, Toyota, Honda, Mercedes, BMW and Hyundai have opened plants in the South.

<i>Saturn Spring Hill By the Numbers</i>	
2,600	Acres at the plant site
6,814,840	Square feet of factory space
6,158	People employed
14,000+	People who have worked at the plant since it opened
3,185,043	Vehicles produced between July 30, 1990, when production began, and July 31, 2004
2,808,712	Spring Hill-made vehicles sold through July 31
\$3.4 billion	Investment by GM in its Spring Hill plant before this spending plan

SHELBYVILLE'S SHEEP SKINS

Jostens Inc. starts cranking out diplomas under contract to high schools and colleges across the county. The plant consolidation plan will bring 115 more jobs to the Shelbyville plant, which employs 450. The company, which produces yearbooks, class rings and graduation announcements and accessories, announced that they will close its Red Wing, Minneapolis diploma factory in September and move the work to three other plants. Shelbyville will get most of the work. Jostens has been a fixture in Shelbyville since 1960. The plant also houses a customer service center that will serve as a single contact point for high school and college officials who use the company's products.

Matt Kisber, Tennessee Economic and Community Development Commissioner credits a joint effort between the city, county and state for landing the business expansion.

CLARKSVILLE STRUMS THE CORD

Bridgestone Metalpha USA announces a \$45 million expansion project at their facility in the Clarksville-Montgomery County Corporate Business Park. The company will add 35 new jobs, the expansion will add 125,000 square feet to the company's existing 690,000 square foot facility and increase capacity by 6,000 metric tons. Construction is expected to begin in February 2005 with increased production starting in the first quarter

of 2006. Metalpha is a wholly-owned subsidiary Bridgestone Americas Holding, Inc., one of the world's largest producers of steel cord, which is used as a reinforcement in radial tires. The Clarksville facility began operations in 1995 and is the first overseas production facility outside of Japan. This expansion, the company's third at the Clarksville facility, will bring total employment to 385 and total capital investment to

\$245 million. "This is another powerful testament to the effectiveness of Governor Bredesen's Jobs Cabinet approach," said ECD Commissioner Matt Kisber. "By partnering together, state

and local governments are working to enhance job creation efforts statewide. In addition, we continue to enjoy a strong business climate here and there is no better time to relocate or expand a business in Tennessee." †



DECHERD'S DRIVING FORCE

Production began in Decherd on the 260-horse-power engine that will power the 2005 Pathfinder. The SUV is set to begin production soon at the Nissan's North America assembly plant in Smyrna. The engine is the latest engine model to join the production line at Nissan's Decherd engine plant. The facility has ex-

panded to more than 1 million sq. ft. over the past three years. The plant now produces more than 1 million engines a year. The V6 260-hp engine also will be used on the redesigned models of the Xterra SUV and Frontier pickup that are assembled in Smyrna. †



Jostens announced plans to create over 100 new jobs at their Clarksville yearbook plant. The jobs will be added over the next 2-3 years. Jostens began operation in 1971, and currently employs over 500 people. "Jostens has been extremely active in the community in their 30-plus years here," said Chamber

Chairman and *Aspire* Investor Randy Kelley. "They generously support Austin Peay [State University], the Chamber, Convention & Visitors Bureau, and numerous other entities – we couldn't ask for a better corporate

citizen. We're thrilled that they've chosen to make this investment in Clarksville-Montgomery County and they will continue to provide more good jobs for our citizens." †

<i>Nissan Decherd Plant By the Numbers</i>	
960	Acres at the plant site
964,000	Square feet, size of assembly plant and warehouse
1,654	People employed
790,000	Engines assembled annually
214,000	Transaxles assembled a year
2,292,000	Parts machined annually
86	Suppliers
1,600	Different purchased parts

JOSTENS MAKING CLARKSVILLE MEMORIES

CLARKSVILLE LAND RUSH

Governor Phil Bredesen and Economic & Community Development Commissioner Matt Kisber joined the Clarksville-Montgomery County Industrial Development Board Monday, May 17 to break ground on a 1,018-acre Corporate Business Park expansion. Kisber commented that the Clarksville-Montgomery County Corporate Business Park represented "one of the more premier sites, not only in Tennessee, but in the South."

The City of Clarksville and Montgomery County jointly acquired 1,018 acres of property in late 2001 to expand the existing Corporate Business Park. The

Industrial Board contracted with Lockwood Greene Consulting to prepare a site design and a marketing plan, which was completed in May 2003. Initial infrastructure improvements began on the site in November 2003.!



"PLASTICS" IS THE FUTURE IN LEWISBURG



Pictured above are (seated L to R) Janet Cook, Secretary of Dole Refrigerating, John Cook, President of Dole Refrigerating and Kenco Plastics, Connie Edde, Treasurer for the City of Lewisburg. Standing (L to R) Larry McKnight, Director of Economic Development, Eddie Wiles, Chairman of Lewisburg's Industrial Board, and Tony Beyer, Business Consultant and Chairman of

Mr. John Cook, President of Dole Refrigerating Company, announced the relocation of Kenco Plastics Company from Necedah, Wisconsin, to Lewisburg, Tennessee. Kenco Plastics markets primarily to the wastewater treatment industry throughout the United States. The company will be located in a new 20,000 square foot building on Higgs Road in Lewisburg's Industrial Park. They plan to hire 15 employees at start-up and employment will increase based on production requirements. Employee's responsibilities will include management, wood framing, steel fabricating, fiberglass chopping and rolling, assembly of buildings, mold prepping

and repairing of panels. The average wage rate will be approximately \$11.25 per hour.

Dole Refrigeration, the parent company of Kenco Plastics, has been in Lewisburg since 1976 and has been a very stable employer and a successful manufacturer. They market Eutectic Holdover Plate Systems to the transport refrigeration industry that includes refrigerated truck body builders and cart manufacturers. They are the largest manufacturer of this product in the United States. Dole also markets industrial refrigeration equipment globally for commercial food processing. !

- SCSi Business Solutions has announced a move from Brentwood to **Columbia**. SCSi, which sells customized software, computer networking, hardware services and software training, in recent years has bulked up to become a one-stop technology shop. After declines in 2001 and 2002, global IT spending rebounded last year with 2% growth, hitting nearly \$890 billion.
- Hot Topic Inc. announced in June that it plans to open a new 300,000 sq. ft. distribution center in **LaVergne** by spring 2005. With more than 540 stores nationally, Hot Topic is a mall-based retailer of apparel, accessories and gifts for young men and women. Hot Topic showed revenue of \$572 million for 2003.
- Starbucks, the coffee retail and roasting giant, through its relationship with locally based Ozburn Hessey Logistics, has located a 125,000 sq. ft. distribution center in **LaVergne**. The facility's 75 employees will provide logistics and gift-wrapping services to 700 Starbucks locations from Wisconsin to Florida. Project capital investment will total \$3.2 million.
- **Smyrna** plant considered for Nissan hybrid. Nissan plants in MS and TN are in the running to build the automaker's new Altima Hybrid, a mid-size sedan with fuel-efficient, four-cylinder engine with components built by its major rival-Toyota Motor Corp. Toyota agreed to supply the transaxle, inverter, battery and control unit. The engine decreases pollution and saves fuel by alternating between a gas engine and electric motor. The Smyrna plant already produces traditional Altimas, and Canton workers will manufacture Altimas for 2005 starting this summer.
- Mingle & Elrod, Inc., a **Murfreesboro** based structural steel fabricator, has outgrown its space and is set to build a facility almost twice as large. The company bolstered by a 30% increase in revenue this year and a healthy backlog of projects. The company is operating in 28,000 sq. ft. Plans are to build a 52,800 sq. ft. facility to house office and factory. An additional 37,500 sq. ft. of space is available for future expansion.
- Asurion moved its headquarters from California to **Nashville** last summer. The company has 325 employees, which is being consolidated in a 40,000 square foot space at Grassmere. Asurion provides services to wireless telecommunications companies, including insurance and repairs for cellular telephones. Most of the 200 new jobs will be customer service representatives, but the company is also hiring supervisors, customer relations specialists and technical hot line specialist. The company, which had \$250 million in revenue in 2003, so far has created more than 600 new jobs in Nashville, tripling its one-year goal.!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association

2004-2005 Executive Committee

President

David Crowell
Manager
Shelbyville Power System
Post Office Box 530
Shelbyville, TN 37162-0530

Vice President

Paul Thompson
General Manager
Tri-County EMC
Post Office Box 40
Lafayette, TN 37083

Secretary/Treasurer

Larry D. Kirk
Manager
Murfreesboro Electric Dept.
Post Office Box 9
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-0009

Members

James Peeler
Manager
City of Dickson Electric Dept.
Post Office Box 627
Dickson, TN 37056

Harold Womble
General Manager
Meriwether Lewis Elec Coop
Post Office Box 240
Centerville, TN 37033

Carl Wilson, Jr
General Manager
Cumberland Elect Mem. Corp.
Post Office Box 3300
Clarksville, TN 37043-3300

Heidi Smith
Sr. Manager
Mgr. Economic Dev. Mktg.
Tennessee Valley Authority
P.O. Box 292409
Nashville, TN 37229-2409



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2108 Westwood Avenue



Nashville, TN 37212



Phone: 615.269.5233



Fax: 615.269.5184



WATS: 800.227.6628



Email: mtida@mtida.org

Website: www.mtida.org

Executive Director:
George W. Shuff, III



Middle Tennessee Industrial
Development Association
2108 Westwood Avenue
Nashville TN 37212

MAILING LABEL