



# MCEDA Annual Report 2008-2009

MORGAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

## Continued Cooperation in Morgan County



Regionalism and cooperation are at work in Morgan County!

On November 4, 2009, the Morgan County Industrial Park and the Economic Development Cooperative District, along with 125 guests celebrated the success of Mallard-Fox Creek Industrial Park and the groundbreaking of the Morgan Center Business Park immediately north of Thompson Road adjacent to Interstate 65 in Hartselle, AL.

The celebration featured a ceremonial bond burning for Mallard-Fox Creek, an unveiling of the Morgan Center Business Park logo and rendering for phase one of development, and a groundbreaking for the new park.

Speakers included Jeremy Nails, President and CEO of Morgan County Economic Development Association and Chairman of the Morgan County Cooperative District; Lynn Fowler, Chairman of the Board for Morgan County Economic Development Association; Hollie Pegg, Senior Project Manager for the Alabama Development Office; and Alabama State Senator Arthur Orr.

Merchant Capital LLC, underwriter for the bonds for Morgan Center, helped sponsor the event and A Digital Reflection Photography and Videography donated photography services.

Morgan Center Business Park is a joint effort between the seven municipalities within Morgan County, the Morgan County Commission and the Decatur-Morgan County Port Authority. The Cooperative District board consists of one representative from each of the following: Morgan County, Decatur, Hartselle, Eva, Trinity, Falkville, Priceville, Somerville and the Decatur-Morgan County Port Authority.

The majority of the acreage for the first phase has been acquired. Planning and engineering for the park's infrastructure is currently underway.

*(See pictures from the note burning & groundbreaking ceremony on the back page.)*

## Morgan County's Expanding Industry Investment Surpasses \$479 Million

Morgan County had twenty-one expanding companies during fiscal year 2008-2009. Total announced investment for expanding industry was \$479,868,600 with the announced creation of 144 new jobs.

There were twenty-one expansions announced between October 2008 and September 2009. **BP America** created 11 jobs by upgrading equipment to produce paraxylene, naphthalene dicarboxylate acid and purified terephthalic acid (PTA) for an investment of \$225 million; **Daikin America** is expanding their production of ETFE with an investment of \$66 million, creating 25 jobs; **United Launch Alliance** is investing \$159.3 million renovating their current facilities to add production of the Atlas V Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle, creating 66 jobs; **JIT Industries** added new equipment twice since last October and created 18 jobs for approximately \$1.425 million; **Micor Industries** installed \$250,000 of new equipment, creating eight new jobs; **Valley Rubber** added equipment and made upgrades for an investment of \$200,000; and **Alabama Farmers Co-op** is working on a 9,400 sq. ft. expansion for a total investment of \$3.5 million.

In addition to the companies named above, there were thirteen companies who announced expansions or equipment upgrades but asked that their information remain confidential.

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# Morgan County Workforce Development Efforts

## Workforce Development Leads to Career Pathway



All businesses and industries should have the skilled workforce that they need to be competitive, and all job seekers and students should have the opportunity to explore the career pathway right for them. Our purpose is to ensure these needs and opportunities are met and matched to one another. Meeting these needs is an important part of economic development.

This year has been successful in making progress towards improving workforce development efforts and collaboration in Morgan County. In conjunction with Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce's Workforce Development Coalition, MCEDA has conducted workforce development strategic planning by involving stakeholders in the planning process. This brought to the forefront the need for a comprehensive Workforce Development Resource Guide and Matrix of Services. These documents are geared towards all parties interested in workforce development including employers, job seekers, students, educators, as well as not-for-profit and government entities that provide workforce development services or are seeking services. You can view these pieces at [mceda.org](http://mceda.org) and [dcc.org](http://dcc.org).

The Workforce Development Coalition's **VISION** is to create an educated workforce in Morgan County that can meet the needs of the current and future global economy. The Coalition's **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES** are to create a directory of services, formulate plans to address service gaps and duplication of services, communicate programs and services available to business and industry, create a customer feedback process, and create a marketing plan for the general public.

We are also working to brand workforce development in the county through "CareerPathway." This branding effort includes a Facebook page and development of [careerpathway.info](http://careerpathway.info). This website, which will be launched in December 2009, will be a one-stop source for workforce development and career information in Morgan County.

For more information on "CareerPathway" or how to get involved, please contact Mary Ila Ward with MCEDA at [miw@mceda.org](mailto:miw@mceda.org) or Charlotte McKelvey with the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce at [charlotte@dcc.org](mailto:charlotte@dcc.org).

## 2009 MCEDA Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament and Dinner



**TOURNAMENT WINNERS**

Michael Wilbanks, John Seymour and Sammy Dean

MCEDA held its 15th Annual Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament and Dinner on September 22, 2009. The golf tournament was held at Decatur Country Club and the dinner was held at Rhodes Ferry Park. There were over 90 golfers and 200 guests in attendance at the dinner.

*A special thank you to all our sponsors for helping make this event possible. We would not be able to have such a successful event without your support. Thank you!*



**ENJOYING THE DAY**

Bobby Allfrey, M&D Mechanical Contractors, and Mark Heard, Alabama Ladder Company

# MCEDA Membership

We would like to thank our new and renewing members that have invested in our organization throughout this past year. We appreciate your support and look forward to working with you in the future.

3M Company  
A Digital Reflection Photography &  
Videography  
AFC, Inc.  
Alabama Association of Employers  
Alabama Ladder Co Inc.  
AlphaPet Inc.  
AT & T Alabama  
Automatic Screw Machine Products  
Bank Independent of Decatur  
Bank Independent of Hartselle  
Barge, Waggoner, Sumner, & Cannon  
Barloworld Handling  
Blackburn, Maloney & Schuppert, LLC  
Blue Creek Investment Partners, LLC  
BP - Decatur Works  
Brown Recycling & Manufacturing  
Bud's Stores  
Bunge North America, Inc.  
Byrd Maintenance Services, Inc.  
Byrd, Smalley & Adams PC  
Calhoun Community College  
City of Decatur  
City of Hartselle  
Compass Bank  
Cook's Pest Control, Inc.  
Cornerstone Engineering Group, PC  
Corporate Warehouse Services  
Corum's Building & Farm Center  
CR Compressors LLC  
DCA Ready Mix  
Decatur Career Center  
Decatur Coca-Cola Bottling Company  
Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of  
Commerce  
Decatur-Morgan County Convention &  
Visitors Bureau  
Decatur Daily  
Decatur General Foundation  
Decatur General Hospital  
Decatur Printing Company, Inc.  
Decatur Utilities  
Del Monte Pet Products  
DRC Properties  
Dunn Building Company, LLC  
Durango Partners, Inc.  
Early Services, Inc.  
Eddie Preuitt Ford, Inc.

ENERSOLV  
ERA Ben Porter Real Estate  
Eva Bank  
Eyster, Key, Tubb, Roth, Middleton &  
Adams  
Fite Building Company, Inc.  
FSI - Fleet Services Inc.  
Gallet and Associates  
Gateway Commercial Brokerage, Inc.  
General Electric Company  
Gobble-Fite Lumber Company, Inc.  
Goss Electric, Inc.  
Great Southern Engineering  
Greater Morgan County Homebuilders  
Harris, Caddell and Shanks  
Hartselle Area Chamber of Commerce  
Hartselle Development Board  
Hartselle Medical Center  
Hartselle Utilities  
Hexcel Corporation  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites - Decatur  
Hyosung USA, Inc.  
ITC-AL, LLC  
Jimmy Smith Jewelers  
JIT Industries, Inc.  
Joe Wheeler EMC  
Kinder Morgan - Decatur River Port  
Lakeland Industries, Inc.  
Lawrence County Chamber  
Lynn Layton Chevrolet  
Magic Steel Sales LLC  
Mallard Steel  
Matthews Industries, Inc.  
Micor Industries, Inc.  
MIW Industrial Park  
Morgan County Commission  
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Mr. Wally Terry  
National Packaging Co., Inc.  
Nichols Aluminum Alabama  
Nowlin Development Company, Inc.  
Nucor Steel Decatur, LLC  
Office Interiors by OSCO, Inc.  
Parkway Medical Center  
Peck Funeral Home  
Peoples Bank

Pepsi Cola Bottling Company-Decatur  
Pro-Air Services, Inc.  
Progress Bank and Trust  
Pugh Wright McAnally Inc.  
QORE Property Sciences  
RBC Bank  
Red Sage Communications  
Regions Bank  
Renasant Bank  
Sartain Ford, Inc.  
Sextons, Inc.  
S.S. Nesbitt & Company, Inc.  
Sue-Jac, Inc.  
Tanksley Machine and Tool, Inc.  
Tennessee Valley Recycling, LLC  
Tennessee Valley Training Center  
TEPPCO Products LP  
Thompson Tractor Company, Inc.  
Toray Carbon Fibers America, Inc.  
Toray Fluorofibers (America), Inc.  
Town of Eva  
Town of Somerville  
Town of Trinity  
TTL, Inc.  
Tucker, Scott, and Wates, LLC  
United Launch Alliance  
Valley Budweiser  
Valley Rubber, LLC  
Wachovia Bank of Morgan County  
Wayne Farms  
Willo Products Company, Inc.





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## Mallard Fox Creek Note Burning & Morgan Center Business Park Groundbreaking November 4, 2009



Rep. Bill Dukes burns a note from the Mallard Fox Creek bond issue.



Members of the Cooperative District and the Morgan County Legislative Delegation unveil the name and break ground on the new Morgan Center Business Park. (From left to right) Mr. Britt Sexton, Rep. Bill Dukes, Mayor Ray Long, Mayor Dwight Tankersley, Senator Arthur Orr, Mr. Jeremy Nails, Rep. Mickey Hammon, Chairman John Glasscock, Mayor Gary Livingston, Mayor Don Stanford, Mayor Vaughn Goodwin

Photos Courtesy of: A Digital Reflection Photography & Videography