

FOCUS

Missouri

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April 9, 2010

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

Boonville Stores Evaluated by DREAM Design Consultant



As part of Boonville's DREAM (Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri) Initiative, downtown store owners received design evaluations by an architect who specializes in retail layouts. Kate Fjell, Boonville special projects assistant said, "If we have a smarter and more savvy design, store layout, that encourages people to browse and shop more, that's going to help everything." [Read more...](#)

Cape Girardeau Considers Downtown District to Fund Improvements

Downtown business owners and residents of Cape Girardeau are considering the creation of a community improvement district (CID) to help fund improvements and redevelopment under the Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative. Marla Mills, executive director of Old Town Cape said that community improvement districts establish political subdivisions and give communities funding mechanisms for a range of services, including marketing, new business recruitment, beautification, transportation, security and other economic development projects." [Read more...](#)



St. Louis Ranked Among Most Affordable Cities to do Business



In a recent study released by KPMG LLP, St. Louis ranks No. 6 in the "Most Affordable Cities to do Business." The report shows a cost index of 97.8 for the Gateway City, which benefits from competitive salary and wage costs and low industry lease costs. KPMG's 2010 Competitive Alternatives study measured 26 cost components, including labor, taxes, real estate and utilities, as they apply to 17 industries, over a 10-year planning horizon, as well as data on a variety of non-cost-competitive factors. [Read more...](#)

FOCUS ON MISSOURI

The Science of Entrepreneurship Workshop



A free workshop designed to introduce scientists, from a biotech, pharmacological or plant and life sciences background, to entrepreneurship will be held April 14 at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center. In addition to brief presentations from science entrepreneurs, the comprehensive program will provide information and access to a host of service providers who can help evaluate the opportunity of starting your own business. [Read more...](#)

COMMUNITY

WORKFORCE

BUSINESS

GLOBAL NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Missouri Partnership Marketing Events

[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)

[Partnership Marketing Events](#)

March 22 - April 30

["Outstanding Women of Missouri" on display in Forsyth](#)

April 15 - 16, 2010

[IEDC Business Retention and Expansion Training Course](#)

April 18 - 22, 2010

[Heartland Basic E.D. Course Blue Springs](#)

April 19 - 21, 2010

[4th Annual Maastricht Institute of Entrepreneurship](#)

April 19 - 23, 2010

[Exploring Innovation in Community Development Week](#)

April 21 - 23, 2010

[Missouri Association for Workforce Development \(MAWD\) Conference](#)

April 21 - 23, 2010

[Tourism for Local Economic Development Conference](#)

April 26 - 27, 2010

[Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop](#)

Last Chance! Register Now for BIO 2010 Chicago International Convention

The Missouri Biotechnology Association (MOBIO) and the Missouri Department of Economic Development / Missouri Partnership serve as co-coordinators in leading a statewide delegation and annually supporting the Missouri Pavilion effort at the BIO International Convention. If you are interested in attracting companies in the human, plant or animal sciences, including agricultural ventures, join the state's life sciences leaders, Gov. Jay Nixon, and state cabinet leaders from the Department of Economic Development and Department of Agriculture at this year's event in Chicago, May 3-6. **Registrations are due today**. Contact [Jessica Winschel](#), MOBIO, at (573) 694-7601 for more information. [Register now...](#) (See the *Global News* section for international trade assistance while attending the convention!)



April 28, 2010
[International Career Day](#)

April 28 - 30, 2010
[Futurallia 2010](#)

May 3 - 6, 2010
[BIO International Convention](#)
Registrations due April 9!

May 24 - 26, 2010
[MEDC Spring Conference](#)
Lake Ozark

June 2 - 4, 2010
[Biotech-China 2010](#)

June 6 - 8, 2010
[IEDC 2010 Conference: How You Build It: Creating Cutting Edge Developments](#)
Oklahoma City, OK

June 15 - 17, 2010
[2010 NASCO Conference](#)

June 22 - 23, 2010
[AES Compliance Seminar: Complying with the Foreign Trade Regulations](#)

July 25 - 29, 2010
[2010 Summers @ Mizzou, Build-a-Business Camp](#)

July 29 - 30, 2010
[Missouri Environmental Conference](#)

September 15 - 17, 2010
[2010 Missouri Governor's Conference on Economic Development](#)

PAST ISSUES

[Missouri Focus April 2, 2010](#)

[Missouri Focus March 26, 2010](#)

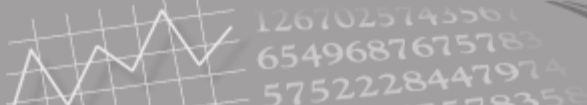
[Missouri Focus March 19, 2010](#)

[Missouri Focus March 12, 2010](#)

[DED PRESS RELEASES](#)

[QUICK LINKS](#)

MERIC
TRENDSIGHTS



Missouri Economy on the Move: Waterway Industry



Missouri is home to 14 public Port Authorities and more than 200 private ports operating on over 1,000 miles of waterways along the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. The port industry currently employs 1,396 workers in the state with 870 in inland water freight transportation positions and 526 in water transportation support activities. [Read more...](#)

Check Your Area's 2010 Census Participation Rate

Have you filled out your 2010 Census form yet? If 100 percent of households mailed back their forms, taxpayers would save \$1.5 billion dollars. Use the Census Bureau's Take 10 Map web site to track your community's participation rate so far. [Read more...](#)



Department of Economic Development Awards St. Martins Supplemental CDBG Disaster Funding
The city of St. Martins has been approved for supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) disaster funding by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) in the amount of \$58,628 to assist in the rehabilitation of the Moreau View Village senior apartments. [Read more...](#)

Department of Economic Development Awards St. Louis \$1.6M in Supplemental CDBG Disaster Funding
St. Louis has been approved for supplemental Community



Report: Job Growth Highest in Three Years
The latest report from the U.S. Department of Labor showed that the number of new jobs nationwide grew by 162,000 in March, the largest addition of jobs since December of 2007. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate has stayed at 9.7 percent since January. Of the March job growth total, 76 percent came from the private sector. According to a companion report by the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, nine of the eleven major industries reported job gains. [Read more...](#)

Green Careers Dominate



United Healthcare Adds 175 Jobs at Maryland Heights Call Center
United Healthcare of the Midwest has added 175 new jobs at its Maryland Heights call center, which has been repositioned to handle calls from physicians and service providers rather than insurance plan members. United Healthcare of the Midwest employs over 1,000 people in the St. Louis area and more than 2,000 throughout Missouri. [Read more...](#)

Midwest Research Institute Awarded Defense Contract
Kansas City's Midwest Research Institute was recently granted a U.S. Department of Defense

Development Block Grant (CDBG) disaster funding by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) in the amount of \$1.6 million to assist with site preparation and public improvements for the North Sarah rental development. [Read more...](#)

DED Awards \$93,780 in Enhanced Enterprise Zone Tax Credits to Grandview Business for Job Creation, New Investment

Integrity Products, Grandview, has been approved for \$93,780 in state tax credits under the Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) program over a five-year period by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) for the creation of 12 new jobs and new investment of \$5 million for the expansion facility located at 4006 Main Street, Grandview. The business operation will be a wholesale trade facility. [Read more...](#)

Department of Economic Development Grants Enhanced Enterprise Zone Designation to Pulaski County

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced approval of Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) designation for Pulaski County. This designation will allow county officials to continue to move forward with economic development efforts. [Read more...](#)

Recession-Proof Jobs

Of the ten sectors recently identified by *Newsweek* as "recession-resistant industries" that are on the rise despite the economy, almost half were environmentally-beneficial, or "green" jobs, such as solar and wind energy. The article states that green projects created more than 5.3 million jobs worldwide in 2005. Health, education and security fields rounded out the remaining industries with an increase in jobs. Job seekers can obtain a copy of [The Missouri Green Jobs Report](#) at their local Career Center. [Read more...](#)

Gov. Nixon Appoints New Education/Workforce Advisor

On April 1, Gov. Nixon announced the appointment of Missouri State University President Mike Nietzel as an advisor on higher education and workforce readiness matters. Dr. Nietzel will begin the new position right away, but will continue to serve as university president until his successor is named. "President Nietzel is an academic leader whom I have known and respected for many years," Gov. Nixon said. "His advice will be invaluable both on matters of higher education and on how we can best prepare Missouri's workers for the jobs of today and tomorrow. His expertise, experience and common sense are resources we will put to great use as we work to ensure Missouri is at the forefront of the economic recovery that is beginning." [Read more...](#)

contract to provide chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) support that is vital to national defense against chemical and biological warfare and terrorism. The contract, one of many with a total worth of \$485 million, will provide project management, research, development, acquisition and sustainment services to the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. [Read more...](#)

Smith Electric Vehicles Receives \$22M in Federal Funding

U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill announced last week that Smith Electric Vehicles U.S. Corp. of Kansas City will receive an additional \$22 million in federal grant funds from the Department of Energy to help develop future electric vehicles and offer customer incentives. McCaskill said, "This award recognizes Smith's leadership role in building the foundation for an all-electric commercial truck industry in this country." [Read more...](#)

ARRA Provides Additional Funding for Business & Industry Guaranteed Loans

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provides an additional level of funding for the [Business & Industry \(B&I\) Guaranteed Loan Program](#) through USDA Rural Development. Approximately \$1.7 billion of additional program funds are available nationwide until September 30, 2010. The ARRA funds are in addition to the regular B&I program funding. The B&I program provides guarantees of up to 80 percent of loans made by eligible commercial lenders for job creation and economic development projects in rural

- Dept. of Economic Development
- State of Missouri
- Missouri Business Portal
- Missouri Women's Council
- Missouri Women Owned Business Network
- Missouri LocationOne
- Missouri CareerSource.com
- MOSourceLink
- Missouri Workforce Investment Board
- MERIC
- Division of Tourism
- Missouri Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board
- Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission
- Missouri Development Finance Board
- Missouri Community Betterment
- Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC)
- Missouri Partnership
- Missouri Main Street Connection
- Missouri Arts Council
- Economic Development at Mizzou
- University of Missouri Extension
- Missouri Procurement and Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC)
- Missouri Business Development Program
- Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (SBTDC) {SBTDC training seminars at MSU}
- MoFAST
- Missouri Economic Development Council (MEDC)
- International Economic Development Council (IEDC)
- Associated Industries of Missouri (AIM)
- Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Center
- Missouri General Assembly
- Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

GLOBAL NEWS

DED Offers Trade Assistance during BIO International Convention



The Missouri Department of Economic Development's International Trade and Investment Office is offering Missouri companies that are attending the [BIO International Convention](#) in Chicago, May 3-6, its services to identify potential global partners, collaborations and synergies. One-third of BIO attendees are from outside the United States. They come ready to share their extensive knowledge and establish relationships. More than 300 international public officials

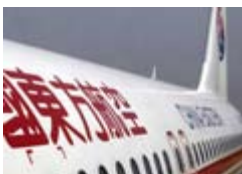
will utilize the convention to make vital connections and drive change on key issues that influence global biotech industry growth and innovation. Missouri's six foreign offices will identify trade partners for interested Missouri delegates at this year's convention. If you would like to further explore international trade opportunities, [sign up today](#). (You must register separately for attendance at the convention! See *Focus on Missouri* section for convention sign-up information.)

Biotech-China 2010

Biotech-China 2010 offers a unique business and communication platform for top decision-makers in biotech companies. This opportunity represents an integral and valuable meeting point for both the international exhibitors and Asian vendors, as well as cooperation partners, distributors, and visitors. Missouri's China Trade and Investment Office has been offered a huge discount for Missouri companies to exhibit at Biotech-China 2010, June 2-4, with three participation options to choose from. Participation is limited to the first eight companies - registration form and option fee are due no later than April 30. For more information, contact International Business Manager [Yan Li](#) at (573) 751-7549. [Read more...](#)



Four Chinese Airlines Agree to Study Potential for St. Louis/China Cargo Flights



A group of local leaders from St. Louis recently traveled to Beijing with hopes of getting a few Chinese airlines to consider cargo flights to St. Louis. They returned with deals from four Chinese airlines to study the potential for opening St.

Louis/China cargo routes. It's a significant step forward in the region's two-year-long bid to turn Lambert into a hub for air freight flying between China and the Midwest, said St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay, who led the delegation. [Read more...](#) (Photo credit: (Nelson Ching/Bloomberg News))

Webinar: Belgium - Key Industry Sector Opportunities

This webinar, scheduled for May 20 at 10:30 a.m. CDT, will cover trends, challenges and top export opportunities in Belgium, with a special focus on medical equipment, because of its aging population, environmental technologies due to expanding EU directives, and chemicals and plastics sectors, with chemicals being the largest trade sector with the United States. Belgium has the wealth and appreciation of technology to purchase cutting-edge U.S. equipment. Centrally located in Europe, 60 percent of the continent's purchasing power lies within a 300-mile radius and it serves as a logistical hub for the continent. [Learn more/register...](#)



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Questions or Comments?
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