



December 11, 2009



- UPCOMING EVENTS**
- Missouri Partnership Marketing Events**
[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)
 - December 15, 2009**
[Smart Grid & Missouri's Role - "Save Energy-Money & Time Now"](#)
 - December 21, 2009**
[DED Webinar: Missouri Certified Sites Program](#)
 - January 7 - 9, 2010**
[Missouri Governor's Conference on Agriculture](#)
 - January 21, 2010**
[IEDC Webinar: "Developing Community-Based Venture Financing"](#)
 - January 26 - 27, 2010**
[Complying with U.S. Export Controls](#)
 - January 28, 2010**
[2010 Transportation Conference](#)
Jefferson City
 - January 31 - February 2, 2010**
[IEDC Leadership Summit](#)

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

Missouri Community Colleges Rank as Fastest-Growing Schools



Community College Week magazine recently released its list of the "Fastest-Growing Public Two-Year Colleges." St. Louis Community College ranked No. 13 and Linn State Technical College ranked No. 49 in schools with fewer than 2,500 students. Ozarks Technical Community College ranked No. 33 in colleges with enrollment of 10,000 or higher. Rankings are based on percent change in head count. [Read more...](#)

IEDC's 2010 Webinar Series Ready to Kick Off: "Developing Community-Based Venture Financing" – January 21

Venture capital, angel funding and other financing options all have been in short supply over the past year - yet some communities still have been able to help their entrepreneurs. By taking proactive and creative steps to establish new sources of funding, these communities have been able to ensure that new companies can get the financing they need to grow and be successful. Hear from two communities that have successfully helped entrepreneurs jump-start new businesses. Register [here...](#)



FOCUS ON MISSOURI

DED Offers December Webinar: December 21 – Missouri Certified Sites

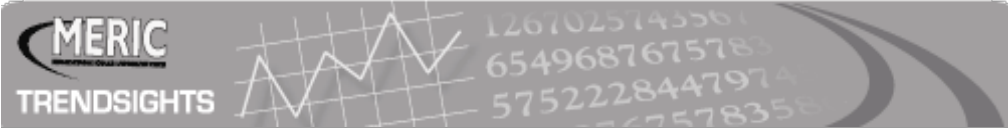


The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has scheduled its next webinar for December 21, from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Presenters Jo Ann Dent and Joel McNutt will provide an overview of the

Missouri Certified Sites program, explain how your industrial sites can become "certified," and review the application process. [Register here](#) for the free webinar. [Submit suggestions](#) for future webinar topics.

Missouri Ranks in Small Business Survival Index

The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council) recently released its 14th annual ranking of the states according to their public policy climates for small business and entrepreneurship. Missouri ranked No. 18 in the "Small Business Survival Index 2009: Ranking the Policy Environment for Entrepreneurship Across the Nation." Factors considered in the Index include: taxes, regulatory costs, government spending, property rights, health care, energy costs and much more. [Read more...](#)



Missouri Economic Impact from the Film "Up in the Air"



"Up in the Air" opens to rave reviews both as a movie and moneymaker for Missouri. The film, shot on location in the St. Louis metro area, was recently awarded Best Picture of 2009 by the National Board of Review. This report highlights the economic benefits to the region from this critically acclaimed film and examines the importance of the film tax credit to the Missouri film industry. [Read more...](#)

Twelve Days of Christmas Price Index

For the 25th year, PNC Wealth Management has released its Christmas Price Index, a whimsical look at the cost of the gifts in the classic holiday song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." True Love's cost of Christmas is \$21,465 in 2009, a 1.8 percent increase over last year. [Read more...](#)



Correction: Springfield Included in Missouri Metros Ranked in Milken's 2009 Best-Performing Cities Index



In an article that ran in *Missouri Focus* last week, Springfield was inadvertently omitted from the 2009 Milken Institute/Greenstreet Real Estate Partners Best-Performing Cities Index. The report ranked Kansas City No. 52, Springfield No. 68 and St. Louis No. 128 in the top 200 Large Metros. We apologize for the oversight and error. Download the full report [here...](#)



DREAM Community Sikeston Awarded \$100,000 CDBG to Assist with Downtown Revitalization Efforts
Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) community Sikeston has been approved for a \$100,000 grant by the Missouri Department of Economic Development under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program on behalf of the Historic Midtown Development Group, Inc. The grant will be utilized to assist in the hiring of a downtown manager. [Read more...](#)

DED Awards \$74,009 in EEZ Tax Credits to Kansas City Business for Creation of 11 New Jobs, \$1.9M New Investment
The Missouri Department of Economic Development



Industry Training Experts Discuss Business Needs at Conference
More than 80 attendees, including DED Project Managers, DWD Business Representatives and educational industry training coordinators, attended the Missouri Association for Customized Training (MACT) Fall Conference, November 19-20. This year's conference focused on green and energy-related initiatives. Business and Community Services Manager Terry Maglich stated, "The Business Development Team benefitted greatly from the discussions and collaboration with the Community Colleges, technical schools and the Division of Workforce Development. It is imperative that this collaboration work closely



Lebanon Plant Puts People Back to Work
Earlier this year, Detroit Tool Metal Products made the decision to close its plant in Fort Madison, Iowa, and consolidate all those jobs in the Lebanon plant. Eventually, nearly 200 people will be put back to work there and the company will invest \$4.5 million in the facility. Detroit Tool has already hired more than 60 people, and another 15 to 20 will start working by the end of this year. Next year, the company plans to hire around 100 employees. [Read more...](#)

Kansas City Power & Light Plans to Increase Wind Power
Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) recently issued requests for proposals to build or sell as much as 300 megawatts of wind

February 8 - 9, 2010
[MEDC Winter Conference](#)
Capitol Plaza,
Jefferson City

March 24 - 25, 2010
[InvestMidwest](#)

April 18 - 22, 2010
[Heartland Basic E.D. Course](#)
Blue Springs

April 19 - 21, 2010
[4th Annual Maastricht Institute of Entrepreneurship](#)

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

PAST ISSUES

[Missouri Focus](#)
December 4, 2009

[Missouri Focus](#)
November 20, 2009

[Missouri Focus](#)
November 13, 2009

[Missouri Focus](#)
November 6, 2009

DED PRESS RELEASES

QUICK LINKS

[Dept. of Economic Development \(DED\)](#)

[State of Missouri](#)

[Missouri Business Portal](#)

[Missouri Women's Council](#)

[Missouri Women Owned Business Network](#)

[Missouri LocationOne](#)

(DED) has announced approval of \$74,009 in state tax credits for Kansas City's Reeves-Wiedeman Co., under the Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) program to assist in the creation of new jobs and \$1.9 million in new investment. [Read more...](#)

DED Awards \$18,085 in EEZ Tax Credits to Carrollton Business for Job Creation, New Investment

Mid-Missouri Tool & Die has been approved for \$18,085 in EEZ state tax credits by the Missouri Department of Economic Development for the creation of three new jobs and new investment of \$150,000 at 5 Municipal Drive, Carrollton. [Read more...](#)

Missouri Main Street Connection Offers NAP State Tax Credits

Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc. (MMSC) is offering contributors a 70 percent state tax credit on donations through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). Seventy-four communities are participating at various levels to follow the Main Street Four-Point Approach™ to Revitalization. With NAP contributions, MMSC provides mentoring, leadership training, evaluation and educational workshops to these Missouri communities. [Read more...](#)

together in order to assist business needs moving forward." MACT was created in 1989 to meet the needs of training professionals involved in administering and delivering training in the state of Missouri. [Read more...](#)

Workforce Conference Calls for Presenters

The Missouri Association for Workforce Development (MAWD) is accepting proposals to present at its annual conference, April 21-23, 2010. Topics for conference workshops may include technology, on-the-job training, green jobs, integrated service delivery and other issues that focus on building Missouri's Next-Generation Career Center model. The deadline for submission is January 11, 2010. Proposals should be submitted to [Rita Holtmeyer](#). [Read more...](#)

New Grants to Build Health IT Workforce

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently announced the upcoming availability of \$80 million in grants to help train health information technology workers. The grants, authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will fund community college training programs. [Read more...](#)

power over the next two years, enough to power approximately 100,000 homes. One-third of the wind energy would be available in 2010 and the rest in 2011, with an additional project of 100 megawatts being planned for 2012. [Read more...](#)

Ameren Plans Solar Energy Systems

Ameren Corp. has launched an initiative to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiencies of solar power systems in the Missouri and Illinois areas. This is the first step in what will lead to the installation of solar energy systems on company facilities in St. Louis and in Illinois. The company is also planning to offer commercial and residential customers rebates on new solar installations. Burns & McDonnell of Kansas City has been awarded the contract to develop conceptual designs for the solar demonstration projects. [Read more...](#)

Tacony Celebrates 5-Year, 10-Year and NGJT Youth Employees

High-end residential and commercial vacuum cleaner manufacturer Tacony Manufacturing recently celebrated the youth who participated in the Next-Generation Jobs Team (NGJT) program, and also honored its 5-year and 10-year employees. Tacony is located in St. James and boasts the country's only vacuum cleaner museum. [Read more...](#)

[Missouri CareerSource.com](#)

[MOSourceLink](#)

[Missouri Workforce Investment Board](#)

[MERIC](#)

[Division of Tourism](#)

[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](#)

GLOBAL NEWS

U.S. Chinese Ambassador Honors Midwest-China Hub Commission

Chinese Ambassador to the United States Zhou Wenzhong



has invited the Midwest-China Hub Commission to attend a special dinner December 10 at the Chinese Embassy in Washington, D.C. United States Sens. Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill along with Governor Jay Nixon also will attend the dinner. Other guests include Congressmen Ted Akin, Russ Carnahan, Lacy Clay, and Blaine Leutkemeyer, St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann and area labor and business leaders. Ambassador Zhou is honoring the Midwest-China Hub Commission to demonstrate China's continued commitment to the development of a St. Louis commercial air cargo hub. [Read more...](#)

Midwest China Hub Commission Forms Business Councils

The Midwest China Hub Commission, along with several partnering organizations, invite you to join one of six industry-specific Business Councils. These Councils are designed to broaden the base of regional knowledge and support for this initiative, help catalogue the breadth of business already occurring between the St. Louis region and China, and identify new opportunities for regional trade and back-haul. Each of the six councils will hold an organizational meeting on either December 15 or 16 in St. Louis. Sign up [here](#), or contact Dan Mehan, Vice Chair of the Midwest China Hub Commission, at (573) 634-3511 with any questions.



Rep. Carnahan Named Foreign Affairs Subcommittee Chair



U.S. Rep. Russ Carnahan has been named as the head of the House Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight. Carnahan has made a vow to pursue international opportunities that stimulate U.S. business and job creation, as well as overseeing how resources are spent in Iraq and Afghanistan. [Read more...](#)

Stratus Building Solutions Expands Franchising to Republic of Panama

New Master Franchise in Panama City is Model for Growth in Central & South America

Stratus Building Solutions, the St. Louis-based franchisor of branded building service and maintenance operations in the U.S., Canada and Europe, is expanding to Central America by awarding a new Master Franchise in the Republic of Panama. CEO Dennis Jarrett said, "This new Master Franchise headquartered in Panama City is a business model for our company's expansion in Central and South America as we continue to grow franchise operations globally, and enhance Stratus Building Solutions' worldwide brand." [Read more...](#)



[Missouri \(AIM\)](#)

[Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Center](#)

[Missouri General Assembly](#)

[Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)



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Questions or Comments?
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