Support for Reshoring in Mississippi

Brent Christensen, Executive Director
Mississippi Development Authority

MDA Overview

7 Externally-Focused Divisions

- Asset Development
- Community Services
- Disaster Recovery
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Global Investment and Retention
- Minority and Small Business Development
- Tourism
Reshoring Opportunities

- Mississippi as a “low cost - high value” proposition in the fastest growing region of the U.S.
- Logistical network that includes deepwater ports, trans-continental rail access for international component sourcing
- Workforce training programs
- Reliable and affordable utilities

Reshoring Experience

- R-Squared in Puckett, MS
  - Heat exchangers from Mexico in 2009
  - 25 new jobs for Mississippi
  - MDA: $120,000 in Job Protection Grant to relocate equipment

- Multicraft International in Pelahatchie, MS
  - Automotive parts from Mexico
  - 35 new jobs for Mississippi
  - MDA: $35,000 in Job Protections Grant to relocate equipment
Reshoring Experience

- AirGuide Manufacturing in Clarksdale, MS
  - HVAC equipment from Mexico in 2012
  - 40 new jobs in Mississippi
  - MDA: $800,000 in CDBG for public infrastructure, $65,000 in Momentum Mississippi incentives

- Unnamed Project
  - Material Handling Equipment from China (current project)
  - Possible 70 jobs for Mississippi
  - Intellectual property concerns
  - Desire to be single source in U.S.

Current Tools

- Office in China as local resource
- National U.S. headquarters visitation program
- Federal grants for public infrastructure
  - CDBG
  - ARC (in Northeast Mississippi)
- State grants and loans
  - Momentum Mississippi incentives (“closing fund”)
  - Job Protection Grant up to $200,000 - currently unfunded by Legislature
  - Development Infrastructure Program (DIP) - grant to local governments
  - Capitol Access Program (CAP) - low interest loans to governmental entities for economic development
- Workforce training programs