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WORKFORCE

BUSINESS

GLOBAL NEWS

January 15, 2010

MISSOURI COMMUNITY NEWS

DED Offers January Webinar: Missouri Quality Jobs, January 28



The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has scheduled its next webinar for January 28, from 9-11 a.m. Ronda Anderson will give a detailed program overview, including: who can qualify, how to qualify, and limits and calculations of the program. Recent legislative changes will also be discussed. [Register here](#) for the free webinar. [Submit suggestions](#) for future webinar topics.

KCI Tops National Average for On-Time Flights

Flights arriving and departing from Kansas City International (KCI) airport in November beat the national average on-time rate for the nation's biggest airports. According to the Air Travel Consumer Report issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the on-time rate for arrivals at KCI was 91 percent and departures were on time 92.2 percent of the time. The national averages for 31 airports were 88.2 percent for arrivals and 88.4 percent for departing flights. [Read more...](#)



Trenton Continues with DREAM Plans, Hires Director



The Trenton Downtown Improvement Association has hired Debbie Carman as its new director, and the city is continuing with the momentum built up in 2009 for its downtown revitalization efforts. Trenton was designated a Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) community by the Missouri Department of Economic Development in 2007. [Read more...](#)

St. Louis Art Museum Receives \$50,000 Donation

The charitable arm of Wachovia/Wells Fargo has donated \$50,000 to assist with a free, family-oriented program of art projects and tours at the St. Louis Art Museum. Family Sundays offers families a no-cost opportunity to experience the arts and enjoy family time together. After nearly a year of delays, a \$130.5 million expansion project at the museum is scheduled to begin soon. [Read more...](#)



FOCUS ON MISSOURI

Gov. Nixon Details Plan to Retool Economic Incentive Programs to Spark Growth of Missouri Businesses

Helping existing Missouri businesses grow is the fastest and most reliable way to create jobs and jumpstart the state's economy, Gov. Jay Nixon said today during tours of major employers in St. Louis and Jackson.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Missouri Partnership Marketing Events

[Schedule of Missouri Partnership Marketing Events](#)

January 20 - March 31, 2010

[Making Exporting Easier Webinar Series](#)

January 21, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Van Buren

January 21, 2010

[IEDC Webinar: "Developing Community-Based Venture Financing"](#)

January 22, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Lowry City

January 26 - 27, 2010

[Complying with U.S. Export Controls](#)

January 27, 2010

[CDBG Application Training Workshop](#)
Jefferson City

January 28, 2010

[2010 Transportation](#)



Accomplishing that goal is what the Governor's new "Missouri First" initiative is all about. Under Missouri First, the state will retool its economic incentive programs to provide an additional incentive to companies that already are located and employ workers in the Show-Me State and are considering expansion. [Read more...](#)

Gov. Nixon Announces \$12M Initiative to Train Missourians for High-tech, High-demand Careers

Gov. Jay Nixon last week traveled to two more Missouri community colleges to announce "Training for Tomorrow," a \$12 million initiative to educate Missourians in high-tech fields and get them working in growing industries. These grants will help Missouri community colleges create or expand training programs to serve additional students. The Governor talked about Training for Tomorrow during visits to Crowder College in Neosho and Three Rivers Community College in Poplar Bluff. [Read more...](#)



Three Missouri Banks Rank in Top 10 on Forbes Best Banks List



Three Missouri banks have been ranked in the top 10 for best banks on *Forbes* magazine's list of "America's Best and Worst Banks." UMB Financial and Commerce Bancshares, both headquartered in Kansas City, ranked No. 2 and No. 3, respectively. Central Bancompany of Jefferson City ranked No. 8 on the list of top 100 banks. [Read more...](#)

Attend the State's Most Comprehensive Conference on Transportation!

The 2010 Missouri Conference on Transportation will bring together a variety of viewpoints to consider as Missouri policymakers work to meet the state's transportation challenges, especially as funding shortages loom on the horizon. Plus, you'll have an opportunity to ask ANY transportation question of "The Solutions Panel." Early bird registration price break ends January 21. [Read more...](#)



Missouri Ranks High Among Border States in Doctorate Degrees Awarded



Among bordering states, Missouri ranks second only to Illinois in the number of doctorate degrees awarded in 2008, according to data from the National Science Foundation. Missouri universities awarded 880 doctorates in 2008, with one-quarter in life sciences fields. [Read more...](#)

2010 Census is Coming Soon

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. Simply answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. Any personal data you provide is protected and confidential. It is important to fill out your form, as the 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like hospitals, job training centers, schools, and emergency services. [Read more...](#)



**[Conference](#)
Jefferson City**

January 28, 2010
[DED Webinar: Missouri Quality Jobs](#)

January 31 - February 2, 2010
[IEDC Leadership Summit](#)

February 8 - 9, 2010
[MEDC Winter Conference](#)

February 14 - 19, 2010
[India Solar Energy Trade Mission II](#)

March 4, 2010
[Southeast Missouri Export Seminar Series](#)
Poplar Bluff, MO

March 8 - 13, 2010
[Medical Trade Mission to India](#)

March 18 - 19, 2010
[Economic Development and Strategic Planning](#)
Springfield

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

[PAST ISSUES](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)
[January 8, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)
[December 18, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)
[December 11, 2009](#)

[Missouri Focus](#)
[December 4, 2009](#)

[DED PRESS RELEASES](#)



**FOCUS ON
COMMUNITY**

DED Awards \$157,500 in Neighborhood Assistance Program Tax Credits to St. Peters Non-profit Organization

Boone Center, Inc., St. Peters, will utilize \$157,500 in Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits awarded by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) to fund its Community Employment Opportunity (CEO) and Career Planning Center (CPC) programs for adults with disabilities in St. Charles County and surrounding areas. [Read more...](#)

DED Awards \$87,248 in Enhanced Enterprise Zone Tax Credits to St. James Business for Jobs Creation, New Investment

Tacony Manufacturing, St. James, has been approved for \$87,248 in Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) tax credits by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) over a five-year period for the creation of 45 new jobs and \$5 million in new investment for an expansion facility located at No. 3 Industrial Park, St. James. [Read more...](#)

DED Awards \$1 million in Brownfield Redevelopment Tax Credits to St. Louis Organization

Remediation tax credits for up to \$1 million have been approved by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) for 1227 Washington, LLC, through the Brownfield Redevelopment Program. The remediation tax credits



**FOCUS ON
WORKFORCE**

Feds Call for Test Drive of Job Websites

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) recently launched the “[Tools for America’s Job Seekers Challenge](#)” to give workforce system staff and customers the opportunity to try out hundreds of resources and tools online for free. The initiative began on January 4 and ends today. Throughout the process, users across the country have accessed the myriad of online career resources and rated their usefulness in finding or preparing for a career. Later in January, the resources with the most votes will be posted to the USDOL Challenge Web site to encourage the nationwide network of One-Stop Career Centers to make them available to the more than 20 million job seekers they serve each year. For additional information, visit the link through the state’s job-matching Web site [MissouriCareerSource](#).

Southeast Workforce Grant Spurs Entrepreneurship

With the assistance of \$850,000 in grants from the Workforce Investment Board of Southeast Missouri and the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Southeast Missouri State University is implementing three new programs to foster business development. The monies will fund programs for teachers throughout the region, to teach high school



**FOCUS ON
BUSINESS**

Paul Mueller Rehires Workers

Springfield-based Paul Mueller Co. has started rehiring workers that were laid off in mid-December. The stainless-steel fabricator cited promising industry numbers for the decision to bring back 114 employees, beginning Jan. 11. More employees could be called back as they are needed. [Read more...](#)

Perficient Moves Headquarters to St. Louis

Perficient Inc. has moved its corporate headquarters from Austin, Texas to St. Louis. The information technology consulting firm had already considered St. Louis its operational headquarters with offices in Creve Coeur and Town and Country. Perficient employs 1,000 workers in 18 offices in North America, including 100 in the St. Louis area. [Read more...](#)

Tracker Marine Buys Five Minnesota Dealerships

Tracker Marine Group has purchased five Minnesota boat retail dealerships from Crystal-Pierz Marine. Springfield-based Tracker is the manufacturing division of Bass Pro Shops and sells boats under the Tracker, Sun Tracker, Nitro, Tahoe and Mako names. [Read more...](#)

St. Louis County Creates Special Loan Program for Small Businesses

St. Louis County Economic Council has unveiled an innovative small business loan program that is deemed the first of its kind in the United States and will help boost lending for

QUICK LINKS

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

[State of Missouri](#)

[Missouri Business Portal](#)

[Missouri Women's Council](#)

[Missouri Women Owned Business Network](#)

[Missouri LocationOne](#)

[MissouriCareerSource.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](#)

will facilitate the redevelopment of property located at 1225-1235 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, into a mixed use development of commercial office, restaurant and residential space. [Read more...](#)

DED Announces \$1.3M in Additional CDBG Funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The city of Washington has been approved for \$1.3 million in additional CDBG funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for an infrastructure improvement project to facilitate expansion by CG Power Systems, USA. The company will create 146 jobs at the expanded Washington facility. [Read more...](#)

DED Grants Enhanced Enterprise Zone Designation to Jefferson City, Cole County

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

students to be more enterprising and to develop new agriculture practices. The three-year grants are targeted to revitalize distressed rural communities and will focus on four areas each year. Contact [Scott Sattler](#) for more information. [Read more...](#)

National Companies, Agencies Recruit At Major St. Louis Job Fair

Home Depot, Verizon Wireless, AFLAC, the FBI and the Social Security Administration are some of the companies who have signed up to attend a career fair being put on by [Nationwide Job Fairs](#). The event will take place Tuesday, January 26th from 1 - 5 p.m. at the Lodge Hotel and Banquet Center at the St. Louis Regional Airport. See [flyer](#) or contact Chris Dugan at (360) 918-8572 for more information.

entrepreneurs. Introduced by St. Louis County Executive Charlie A. Dooley at the St. Louis Business Journal's annual State of St. Louis address, BOOST is an alternative to the Small Business Administration's (SBA) 504 loan program, offering less restrictive requirements to borrowers seeking financing for the purchase or construction of land, buildings, machinery, and equipment within St. Louis County. [Read more...](#)

Monsanto Named Company of the Year by Forbes

Creve Coeur-based Monsanto Co. has been named by Forbes magazine as its Company of the Year. Forbes noted that 90 percent of the U.S. soybean crop and 80 percent of the corn and cotton crops are grown with seeds containing Monsanto's technology. The Harvard Business Review also named Monsanto's Chief Executive Hugh Grant as one of the world's best-performing CEOs. [Read more...](#)

[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](#)



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Questions or Comments?
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GLOBAL NEWS

K.C. International Trade Council Announces Spring Program Schedule



The International Trade Council of Kansas City is proud to present the Spring 2010 program schedule. Take advantage of the Trade Council's Educational Series, Breakfast Series and Spring Networking Event. [Read more...](#)

China Passes Germany as Largest Exporter

China has surpassed Germany as the world's top exporter after

December exports jumped 17.7 percent for the first increase in 14 months. According to recent data, China is on track to take over Japan as the world's second-largest economy. Exports for the last month of 2009 were \$130.7 billion, data from the General Administration of Customs showed, bringing total 2009 exports to \$1.2 trillion. [Read more...](#)



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