



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Mobile Area Chamber Recognizes Economic Growth and Names Manufacturer and Innovator of the Year**

Seventeen companies added employees and/or made significant capital investments, aerospace companies continue to locate at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley to be near Airbus and four locally-based companies registered impressive growth on the *Inc.* 5000.

These headlines along with the Mobile Area Chamber's Manufacturer and Innovator of the Year awards were the latest results from the Chamber's economic development efforts aimed at recruiting and retaining companies in the area. The presentation was made at a meeting yesterday to Partners for Growth (PFG) investors. PFG, a program of the Mobile Area Chamber, is funded by private sector business and industry, the City of Mobile and Mobile County.

### **Mobile Area Chamber's 2016 Manufacturer of the Year: BASF Corp.**



*BASF's McIntosh Leadership Team*

Since BASF Corp. acquired Ciba, including its McIntosh facility in 2009, the Germany-headquartered company has maintained its local employee base, increased production and significantly invested in the site originally opened in 1952.

One of the world's largest chemical companies, the local production units benefit the food and beverage, automobile, furniture and flooring industries.

Over the last three years, BASF more than doubled its annual capital spending to make infrastructure improvements, expanded capacity and improved equipment reliability. Local managers expect this trend to continue the next three to five years, with advantageous market conditions and higher demand as the driving forces.

Employees actively support the community by donating time and support to area nonprofit agencies. The company funds a number of science scholarships at various educational institutions and hosts BASF Kids' Lab where students are scientists for a day.

The site has been honored with numerous safety and environmental awards, including Manufacture Alabama's Safety Award. Currently there are more than 550 employees at the McIntosh facility.

"BASF is a cornerstone of our chemical sector, anchoring our base materials corridor that stretches from Washington County to south Mobile County," said Troy Wayman, the Chamber's vice president of economic development. "Their commitment to the area is exemplified by their investments in Macintosh and co-location projects with other industry leaders in Theodore, as well as their charitable corporate citizenry make them an obvious choice for manufacturer of the year."

### **Mobile Area Chamber's 2016 Innovator of the Year: Prism Systems**



*Prism System's Leadership Team*

The work of Mobile-based Prism Systems touches your life in more ways than you can imagine. Your favorite candy bar, doughnut, soft drink or even a bottle of rum, with the help of the company's customized services it turns out right every time.

But more than food and beverages, the company's automation and control programming and software development services reach into Fortune 500 companies and other customers in 41 states and 31 countries in 12 key industries including energy, entertainment, government, oil and gas, pulp and paper, education and more.

The results mean world-class production, improved efficiency and reduced costs for customers.

Prism Systems and its employees are active in the local community, participating in the American Cancer Society Chili Cook-Off and hosting an annual Toys for Tots drive.

The 27-year-old company has nearly 50 employees, and earlier this year opened a new research and development lab, generating additional new hires. Other locations include engineering offices in Glendale, California; Birmingham, Alabama; and a manufacturing assembly location in Washington County.

"Prism Systems is a perfect example of Mobile, Alabama, touching the world. The innovative solutions they provide in multiple business environments across the globe showcases the capabilities and talent our community offers," said Wayman.

Companies announcing jobs and/or investment from July 2015 to July 2016 included:

- APM Terminals Mobile LLC, 20 jobs / \$9 million capital investment;
- Austal, \$16 million capital investment;
- C Spire, \$3 million capital investment;
- Canfor Southern Pine, 20 jobs and U.S. headquarters in Mobile announcement;
- Danby Products Inc. , 25 jobs;
- Dupont Crop Protection, \$8.8 million capital investment;
- Evonik, 50 jobs, \$200 million capital investment;
- FedEx, 100 jobs and new warehouse & distribution center;

- more -

- Infirmary Health, 220 employees, \$5.5 million capital investment;
- iSam North America Corp., \$1.1 million capital investment;
- Prism Systems, 16 jobs, \$877,000 capital investment;
- Southern Light, 29 jobs, \$7 million capital investment;
- Technip, \$31 million capital investment;
- The SSI Group, 7 jobs, \$4 million capital investment;
- Wells Fargo, 18 jobs, \$3.1 million capital investment; and
- Worthington Industries, 8 jobs, \$4.6 million capital investment.

The latest companies joining the Mobile market as a result of Airbus' presence include: Broetje Automation's M-Technologie, Panasonic Avionics, Recaro Aircraft Seating Co., Vartan Product Support and Zodiac Aerospace.

The companies included on the 2016 Inc. 5000, along with their percentage growth were: Mobile-based AccuReg, 104 percent; Mobile-based Hargrove Engineers & Constructors, 115 percent; Mobile-based Centralite, 364 percent; and Daphne-based JMF Solutions, 136 percent.

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