

ThyssenKrupp Stainless USA and ThyssenKrupp Steel USA Win Minority Business Advocate Award

When ThyssenKrupp Steel USA and ThyssenKrupp Stainless USA made a joint announcement in 2007 to open two steel manufacturing plants on one site in north Mobile County, company officials promised they would employ a diverse supplier base. That commitment earned the companies the 2010 Mobile Area Chamber's Minority Business Advocate Award.

"Both manufacturers recognize the importance of having a diverse supplier base, reflecting its employees and customers around the world," said Darrell Randle, the Chamber's vice president of small business development. "They understand small and diverse suppliers can support TK's long-term growth objectives, adding value to its business by providing innovative solutions to manufacturing and marketing efforts."

ThyssenKrupp Stainless USA manufactures and processes stainless steel used in the automotive, aerospace,

architectural, food, medical and environmental industries. ThyssenKrupp Steel USA is a carbon steel processing facility producing steel coils for customers in the automotive, pipe and tube, service center and construction industries. When fully operational, the two facilities will employ more than 2,000 area residents.

Early in the building process of the \$5.2 billion state-of-the-art steel manufacturing facilities, TK embarked on an inclusive procurement campaign designed to provide contracting opportunities to qualified companies throughout the south Alabama region. In addition, the manufacturers hired a supplier diversity specialist to work with the Mobile Area Chamber's Alabama Minority Business Enterprise Center (MBEC) to identify disadvantaged business enterprises, such as minority or women-owned businesses, capable of supplying products and services to the two facilities.



The Minority Business Week awards were held in September 2010 at Mt. Hebron Church Ministries. Accepting the Minority Business Advocate Award for their exemplary commitment to a diverse supplier base are John Boston with ThyssenKrupp Steel USA and Gustavo Patino with ThyssenKrupp Stainless USA. Also pictured are Cicone Prince with 3D Solutions (far left) who served as the Chamber's Growth Alliance Task Force chairman in 2010, and Chamber President Win Hallett (far right).

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