

*The Year for Economic Development Expansion*



ST. TAMMANY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION  
*2006 Annual Report*

St. Tammany  
**EDF**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

888.868.3830 • 985.809.7874  
[www.stedf.org](http://www.stedf.org) • [info@stedf.org](mailto:info@stedf.org)

## St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

### MISSION

St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation (STEDF) is recognized as the leading economic development organization for St. Tammany Parish. Our 25-year-old organization is charged with attracting new business and employment opportunities to St. Tammany Parish. STEDF seeks to improve the quality of life in the parish by strengthening and supporting the business climate in the area.

**THE ST. TAMMANY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, A 501 (C)(6) NONPROFIT CORPORATION AND POLITICALLY UNAFFILIATED, ASSISTS BUSINESSES AND THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING:**

#### 1. Site Selection Services

- Locate sites that meet business partner specifications
- Coordinate meetings and negotiations

#### 2. Demographic Statistics and Helpful Publications

- Customize individualized information
- Publish 10-year economic summary, parish profile and a quarterly economic trends report

#### 3. Facilitate Incentives

- Federal
- State
- Local

#### 4. Retention Program

- Make on-site visits with business management teams
- Facilitate problem resolution
- Host business assistance forums

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**William "Ted" Mason, STEDF President** – LaPorte, Sehart, Romig & Hand, President

**Peter J. Link, STEDF Treasurer** – Parish National Bank, Executive Vice President

**Nixon Adams** – Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum, Executive Director

**Martin Bruno, Jr., FAICP** – City of Slidell, Director of Planning

**Bruce Clement** – Slidell Memorial Hospital, Associate Administrator Clinical Services

**Irma L. Cry** – St. Tammany Parish, Business Development Liaison

**Stuart McAvoy, STEDF 2007 Incoming President** – UPS, Customer Solutions Manager

**Daniel "Danny" R. Schaus, STEDF Past President** – CLECO Power, LLC, Director of Governmental Affairs

### GENERAL BOARD

**Trey Blackall** – Gulf Mechanical, Councilman, City of Covington

**Dorothy Calderone** – Lacombe Chamber of Commerce

**Kendra Carrone** – Louisiana Works Business & Career Solutions, Local Area Coordinator

**Jean M. Champagne** – Krebs, LaSalle, LeMieux Consultants, Inc., Chief Administrative Officer

**Greg Cromer** – Lockheed Martin, Safety & Product Assurance Lead for Return to Flight, Councilman, City of Slidell

**Howard Daigle, Jr.** – Daigle Fisse & Kessenich, Plc, Managing Partner

**Maura W. Donahue** – DonahueFavret Contractors, Inc., Vice President of Business Development, DonahueFavret Contractors Holding Company, President

**Troy M. Dugas** – First Community Bank, Assistant Vice-President, Alderman, Town of Abita Springs

**Eric L. Evans** – Lakeview Regional Medical Center, Chief Operating Officer

**Mayor Barbara Gibson** – Mayor, Village of Sun

**Mayor Peter Gitz** – Mayor, City of Madisonville

**Marty Gould** – Councilman, St. Tammany Parish

**Charles Harrell** – St. Tammany Parish School Board, Member, District 5

**William "Bill" Joubert** – Southeastern Louisiana University Economic & Business Development, Director

**Pamela "Pam" S. Keller** – City of Covington, Director of Economic Development

**Louissette L. Kidd, AICP** – City of Mandeville, Director of Planning & Development

**Ben T. Kirk** – St. Tammany Homebuilders Association, Governmental Affairs Director

Glass flooring and stair treads – one of the applications for laminated glass fabricated at Dependable Glass Works.

**GENERAL BOARD** *continued*

- Martin "Marty" Mayer** – Stirling Properties, President & Chief Executive Office
- Donna O'Daniels** – St. Tammany Parish Tourist & Convention Commission, Executive Director
- Virgil Phillips** – Alderman, Town of Pearl River
- John E. Smith** – Whitney National Bank President, Northshore Banking
- Debra Wactor** – Village of Folsom
- Pete Weiland** – Anna's Linens Construction Development Services
- Carole Woodward, Realtor, ABR, GRI** – Keller Williams Realty, Slidell, Realtor
- Karl Zollinger** – Business Incentive Services, LLC, Partner

**STEDF STAFF**

- Brenda Reine**, Executive Director
- Tracy Clanton**, Executive Assistant
- Robin Montz**, Information Coordinator
- Michael Tomlinson**, Business Development Manager

**2006 STEDF HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Assisted in retaining Chevron's presence in the region, protecting 300 quality jobs
- Assisted MECO, a national manufacturing leader in water purification technology, in retaining their presence in the region, protecting 80 manufacturing jobs
- Assisted Marine Technologies, LLC, a world leader in maritime navigation systems, in locating a new corporate office and training campus, creating 40 and retaining 16 quality jobs
- Assisted 66 additional companies resulting in the retention of 1,938 jobs
- Responding to the effects of the hurricanes, three business assistance forums were held to assist businesses in their recovery
- Orchestrated regional seminar to provide data on special Gulf Opportunity (GO) Zone incentives
- Participated in the Citizens for Space Exploration program in Washington D.C. to help further develop and protect funds for the space exploration industry in our region
- Assisted NASA-Stennis Space Center with the acquisition of the Shared Services Center, creating 500 new jobs
- Continued to assist in development of the UNO Technology Park and 400+ acre mixed-use development
- Partnered with Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Louisiana (MEPoL) to house regional representative at STEDF office
- Executive Director Brenda Reine graduated from University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute
- Received an Economic Development Administration grant through Louisiana Economic Development to expand business retention efforts, create collateral material and conduct business/industrial park feasibility study
- Received a grant from Louisiana Economic Development to conduct an assessment study and provide promotional materials for the I-12 Economic Corridor covering a five-parish area: Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington

*"The St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation provided ongoing support while navigating through local and state government agencies to ensure the timely completion of our industrial project."*

**Richard K. Chapman**  
President / COO  
Diversified Foods  
& Seasonings, Inc.

*STEDF Business Assistance Forum for Manufacturers, August 24, 2006. Jim Heap, Louisiana Department of Labor, West St. Tammany Job Center, gives a presentation to participants at STEDF's Business Assistance Forum for Manufacturers.*



**2006 STEDF COMPANY ASSISTANCE SUCCESS STORIES**

*Listed below are just a few examples of the businesses STEDF successfully assisted in 2006.*

COMPANY	RESULTS	STEDF SUPPORT
3001, Inc.	Expansion	Location Assistance & Incentives
Abita Brewing Company, LLC	Expansion	Industrial Tax Exemption & General Assistance
Acadian Millwork & Supply, Inc.	Retention & Expansion	Incentives & General Assistance
Best Building & Supply of Louisiana	New Business	Incentives & General Assistance
Chevron	Relocation to St. Tammany	Location Assistance & Incentives
Dependable Glass Works, Inc.	Retention & Expansion	Industrial Tax Exemption
Enviro-Tech Systems, LLC	Retention & Expansion	Incentives & General Assistance
Florida Marine Transporters, Inc.	Expansion	Incentives & Industrial Development Bond
It Straps On, Inc.	Retention & Expansion	Incentives & General Assistance
Marine Technologies, LLC	Retention & Expansion	Location Assistance & Incentives
MECO, Inc.	Relocation to St. Tammany	Location Assistance & Incentives
Platform Crane Services, Inc.	Expansion	Incentives & General Assistance
Pontchartrain Materials Corp.	Expansion	Incentives & General Assistance
Smoothie King Franchises, Inc.	Relocation to St. Tammany	Incentives
Textron Marine & Land Systems	Expansion	Incentives

**STEDF INVESTORS**

Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives	Florida Marine Transporters, Inc.
Capital One	Folger Coffee Company
Chevron	Gallinghouse & Associates
Chotin, J. Scott Jr.	LaPorte, Sehrt, Romig & Hand
City of Covington	Louisiana Works Business & Career Solutions
City of Mandeville	Omni Bank
City of Slidell	Parish National Bank
CLECO Power, LLC	Parish Properties/Coastal Waste Service
Coldwell Banker TEC Realtors	St. Tammany Homebuilders Association
Diversified Foods & Seasonings, Inc.	St. Tammany Parish Government
DonahueFavret Contractors, Inc.	Sam's Club
Entergy Corporation	Stirling Properties
Varuso Enterprises, Inc.	Washington-St. Tammany Electric Cooperative
Express Personnel Services	Whitney National Bank
Fauntleroy & Latham Architects	

**2006 SCORECARD**

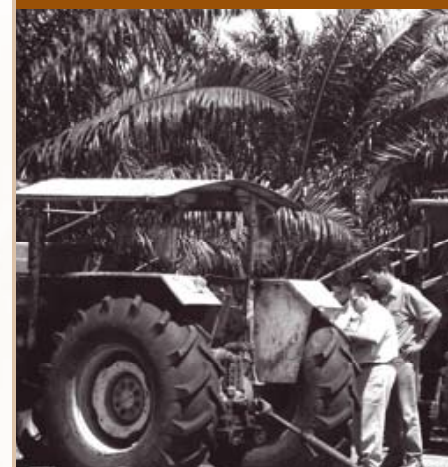
Program Services	Totals	Requests	Totals
Retention Program Visits	66	Community Information	260
Real Estate Site Requests	56	Permits/Licensing/P&Z	110
Proposal Requests	48	Real Estate Listings	43
SLU SBDC Counseling	25	Traffic Count Reports	18
Demographic Services	340	SBDC & SBA Information	96
		Website Hits	863,904

**STEDF SERVICES**

Incentive Programs	Participants	New Jobs	Const./ Contract	Investment
Enterprise Zone	91	3,204	1,615	\$79,500,875
Quality Jobs	1	30	301	\$500,000
Industrial Property Tax Exemption	6	148	256	\$14,285,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>3,382</b>	<b>2,172</b>	<b>\$94,285,875</b>

*"By attending the Business Assistance Forums, I made contacts with people in the industry who struggle with the same issues that I do on a daily basis. With this network of colleagues, I have been able to learn from both their mistakes and their successes."*

**Jim Thomas**,  
President  
Thomas Pump and Machinery, Inc.



2006 ST. TAMMANY PARISH TAX INCENTIVE PARTICIPANTS

Company Name	Investment Program *	New Jobs Created	Construction/Contract Jobs	Investment
Abita Brewing Company LLC	ITE, EZ	5	31	\$2,490,000
Greater Gulf Coast Auto Auctions	EZ	5	30	\$30,000
Stoltz Enterprises, Inc.	ITE, EZ	11	10	\$700,000
Wal-Mart Louisiana, LLC**	EZ	915	5	\$340,000
Walgreen Louisiana Co. Inc.**	EZ	55	100	\$550,000
Movie Gallery	EZ	8	0	\$80,000
Rainbow Chrysler Dodge Jeep LLC	EZ	8	60	\$3,875,000
Enviro-Tech Systems LLC	ITE, EZ	6	27	\$650,000
Ray Brandt Collision Center	EZ	9	1	\$9,000
Winn Dixie Montgomery**	EZ	670	90	\$1,950,000
Acme Oyster House Restaurant	EZ	110	0	\$518,000
Burke's Outlet #297	EZ	0	0	\$1,500
Copeland's of New Orleans, Inc.	EZ	80	0	\$700,000
Creative Design Group, LLC	EZ	4	9	\$1
CVS Egl Gause Blvd La, Inc.	EZ	15	13	\$4,500,000
Fontenot Management Co., LLC	EZ	6	0	\$25,000
Ford Lincoln-Mercury of Slidell	EZ	30	40	\$400,000
Gulf Coast Bank & Trust Co.	EZ	6	2	\$1,400,000
Iberia Bank**	EZ	15	60	\$5,050,000
Innovative Construction Services	EZ	10	0	\$10,000
Jouet, LLC DBA Boule Restaurant	EZ	40	20	\$400,000
Jubilee Food Store	EZ	40	27	\$3,200,000
Marine Technologies, LLC	ITE, EZ	0	0	\$3,150,000
Marshalls of MA, Inc.**	EZ	10	70	\$400,000
Morris Kirschman & Co., Inc.	EZ	20	5	\$300,000
Nissan of Slidell	EZ	12	8	\$156,000
Northshore Regional Medical Ctr.	EZ	0	0	\$5,000,000
Patrick J. Gross CPA, APAC	EZ	2	11	\$100,000
Payless Shoesource	EZ	5	0	\$250,000
Rainbow Automotive of Hammond	EZ	14	0	\$60,000
Rainbow Northshore Pontiac Buick	EZ	8	0	\$10
Restaurant Development Corp. of N.O.	EZ	40	60	\$50,000
Ross Dress for Less, Inc.**	EZ	40	48	\$200,000
Slidell Athletic Club, LLC	EZ	100	110	\$2,050,000
Stranco, Inc.	EZ	18	27	\$1
The Pep Boys - Manny, Moe & Jack	EZ	5	24	\$80,000
The TJX Companies, Inc.	EZ	5	35	\$200,000

"Before Katrina, MECO, an industrial water purification firm, was located near the Industrial Canal in New Orleans. Our company lost everything including an 85,000 square foot factory and all of our inventory and tooling. Eighty percent of our employees suffered home damage while 36 percent lost their homes completely. The St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation reacted swiftly helping us occupy four buildings in Covington to house our fabrication and machining operations including 80 employees. The EDF staff also helped us navigate the permitting process. The EDF has been a great resource at a time when we have a lot on our plate."

**George Gsell**  
CEO  
MECO



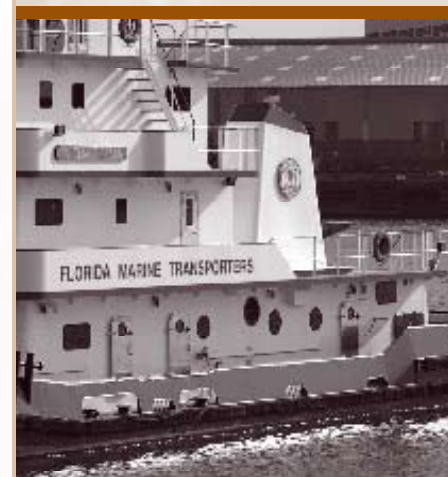
2006 ST. TAMMANY PARISH TAX INCENTIVE PARTICIPANTS *continued*

Company Name	Investment Program *	New Jobs Created	Construction/Contract Jobs	Investment
Tuesday Morning, Inc.	EZ	14	20	\$6,500
Waste Management of La, LLC	EZ	10	45	\$500,000
Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers	EZ	5	0	\$1,400,000
B & K Management, LLC	EZ	4	2	\$1,000,000
Dillard's	EZ	134	0	\$2,745,760
Doctors Management Services, LLC/ Cardiovascular	EZ	5	65	\$450,000
Edward L. Donaldson, Jr. DDS**	EZ	6	136	\$0
Hebert Ichinose, M.D., APMC	EZ	5	0	\$1,000,000
Kay D. Daniel, DDS	EZ	3	8	\$0
Lafarge North America, Inc.**	EZ	10	24	\$1,300,000
Lavigne Oil Company, LLC	EZ	1	0	\$0
Lavigne Plaze, LLC	EZ	0	0	\$0
Office Depot, Inc.**	EZ	20	0	\$300,000
Rhonda Baldone, MD APMC	EZ	6	9	\$55,737
Semolina, Inc.**	EZ	100	10	\$627,000
Storage Plus of Tangi, LLC	EZ	1	0	\$0
American Truss, LLC	ITE, EZ	120	146	\$6,990,000
Dependable Glass Works, Inc.	ITE, EZ	6	42	\$305,000
Robert Levis Chevrolet, LLC	EZ	15	190	\$5,700,000
Slidell Dental Associates, LLC	EZ	2	2	\$100,000
Baraka Wave Rider, LLC DBA Lucy's	EZ	12	9	\$163,365
Best Building & Supply of Louisiana	EZ	40	0	\$1,500,000
Grand Slidell, LLC	EZ	150	0	\$14,225,000
Northshore Toyota	EZ	10	0	\$1
Tchefuncta Country Club	EZ	5	50	\$3,900,000
Ballard/Pearson, LLC DBA P.J.'s Coffee	EZ	25	25	\$210,000
Brew Boys, LLC DBA WOW Café	EZ	50	20	\$250,000
Brew Boys, LLC DBA P.J.'s Coffee Shop	EZ	0	45	\$250,000
Champs Northshore Collision Center	EZ	7	15	\$0
Gilsbar Management Services, LLC	QJ	30	301	\$500,000
Kyle Associates, LLC	EZ	30	13	\$0
Tuff Equipment Rental, LLC	EZ	5	32	\$75,000
Wood and Company, LLC	EZ	4	0	\$1,500,000
Burlington Coat Factory Warehouse of Louisiana, LLC	EZ	70	0	\$1,900,000
Louisiana CVS Pharmacy, LLC dba CVS Pharmacy	EZ	5	0	\$4,500,000
Osaka 21, LLC	EZ	15	0	\$2,000,000
Semolina	EZ	40	0	\$627,000
Acme Oyster House	EZ	110	0	\$518,000
STAR Fitness Center	EZ	20	40	\$1,440,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,382</b>	<b>2,172</b>	<b>\$94,285,875</b>

Source: LED Advanced Notification Forms as of November 10, 2006.  
\*Type of Incentive Programs: EZ=Enterprise Zone QJ=Quality Jobs ITE=Industrial Property Tax Exemption  
\*\*Multiple locations

"The Foundation is a fantastic organization to work with. They were instrumental in helping us secure a \$90 million bond to add employees and expand our revenue and equipment base. Florida Marine is adding 60 barges and 25 push boats for a total fleet of 200 barges and 75 push boats. These additions will make Florida Marine the second largest transporter of liquid petroleum products by inland tank barge in the United States. The EDF is very professional and supportive and we champion their cause."

**Jason Belcher,**  
CFO  
Florida Marine Transporters, Inc.



**STEDF 2006 FINANCIALS**

REVENUES:	Actual
District Support	\$163,103.89
Parish/Municipality Investment	37,500.00
Private Investment	61,100.00
Administrative Fees	14,500.00
Miscellaneous Income	2,267.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$278,471.01</b>

GRANT REVENUES	Actual
Grants	\$33,857.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33,857.40</b>

EXPENDITURES:	Actual
Salary Expense & Benefits	\$121,401.36
Office Administration	30,709.18
Advertising/Newsletter/Printing	6,227.57
Seminars/Training & Travel	14,351.80
Office Insurance	2,953.00
Accounting/Audit	3,472.50
Miscellaneous	6,918.74
Attorney Fees	500.00
Consulting Fees	4,754.00
Demographic/RE Info	20,458.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$204,828.31</b>

GRANT EXPENSES	Actual
Office Administration	\$1,983.02
Consulting Fees	55,859.50
Seminars/Training & Travel	4,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,842.52</b>

All figures represent unaudited year-end results.

**2007 STEDF SHORT & LONG TERM GOALS**

**Short Term Goals**

- Aggressively maintain current business retention efforts
- Identify sources of capital for St. Tammany Parish businesses
- Maintain an adequate inventory of sites and buildings
- Assess regional and national economic opportunities for the I-12 business corridor
- Develop regional and national marketing strategies for the I-10 technology corridor
- Continue to work as liaison between business and regional governments
- Increase STEDF resources to address ever-increasing opportunities

**Long Term Goals**

- Raise St. Tammany Parish's image as a corporate destination
- Create a closing fund to assist with business attraction
- Develop a technology and bioscience incubator

Partners for Stennis Two State Economic Summit at NASA-Michoud Assembly Facility, October 12, 2006. From left: Roy Keller, director, Louisiana Technology Transfer Office, associate director, LSU Louisiana Business & Technology Center; Patrick Scheuermann, chief operating officer, NASA-Michoud Assembly Facility; Brenda Reine, executive director, St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation; Michael Olivier, secretary, Louisiana Economic Development.

"Our Norwegian team came to St. Tammany to start our company, Marine Technologies, in 2002. Marine Technologies fabricates complete systems for large offshore boats, including navigational, control and dynamic positioning systems for which we are the second largest in the world. The Economic Development Foundation helped us every step of the way, from finding appropriate land to helping us present our ideas to Mandeville elected officials to expediting the entire process. The EDF was always pleasant, responsive and supportive. They took care of us."

**Jan Mikalsen**  
President  
Marine Technologies

*St. Tammany Parish Development District*

**THE ST. TAMMANY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION IS THE MANAGEMENT ARM FOR THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.**

**2006 DISTRICT BONDS**

2006 DISTRICT BONDS ISSUED				
Company	Bond Type	New Jobs	Jobs Retained	Issue Amount
Florida Marine Transporters, Inc.	Industrial Revenue Bonds	100	470	\$90,000,00
Main Street Holdings of St. Tammany	GO Zone	225	--	\$7,500,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>325</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>\$97,500,000</b>

**2006 DISTRICT BONDS PRELIMINARY APPROVED**

Company	Bond Type	New Jobs	Jobs Retained	Issue Amount
RDG Properties, LLC	GO Zone	100	30	\$50,000,000
Windward, Inc.	Small Manufacturer	20	40	\$2,000,000
SunTrust Holding Corp.	GO Zone	60	15	\$12,000,000
Bayou Connections, LLC	GO Zone	20	0	\$2,500,000
1077 Properties, LLC	GO Zone	40	0	\$3,200,000
BCS, LLC	GO Zone	80	0	\$4,500,000
I-12/59 Properties, LLC	GO Zone	200	0	\$3,360,500
LQ, 12, LLC	GO Zone	18	0	\$4,500,000
Future Generations Holdings, LLC	GO Zone	40	16	\$3,000,000
Marine Power Holdings, LLC	GO Zone	37	21	\$3,600,000
Herman & Kittle Properties, Inc.	GO Zone	6	0	\$27,500,000
Floorsource South, LLC	GO Zone	6	2	\$4,350,000
Pontchartrain Corner, LLC	GO Zone	6	3	\$6,700,000
Planet Storage, LLC	GO Zone	6	0	\$4,065,000
Benasco Construction, LLC	GO Zone	50	20	\$1,500,000
Travel Choice Inc.	GO Zone	20	0	\$10,000,000
Tammany Holding Corporation	GO Zone	500	85	\$200,000,000
Tammany Middle, LLC	GO Zone	150	0	\$10,000,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,359</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>\$352,775,500</b>

The St. Tammany Parish Development District (District) is a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana that was created in 1992 by Louisiana Revised Statute 33:130.401, et. seq. The District, whose boundaries are the same as St. Tammany Parish, has the power to tax, incur debt and issue revenue and general obligation bonds. This political vehicle was used to facilitate the Diversified Foods & Seasonings, Inc., Folger Lacombe Distribution Center and Florida Marine Transporters projects. The District is also a conduit issuer for the Gulf Opportunity Zone (GO Zone) Bonds.

**REVISED STATUTES 33: 130.401**

**SUBPART B-17. ST. TAMMANY PARISH DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

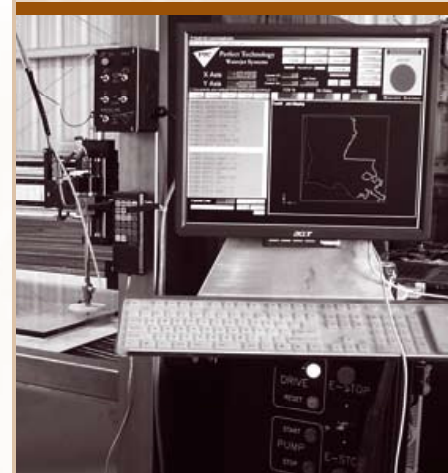
**§130.401. St. Tammany Parish Development District; creation; territorial jurisdiction**

**A.** The St. Tammany Parish Development District, hereinafter referred to as the "district," is hereby constituted and is declared to be a body politic and political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, as defined in Article VI, Section 44 of the Constitution of Louisiana. Pursuant to Article VI, Sections

Dependable Glass Works water jet cutting machine. Cuts with intricate detail. Here it is cutting the outline of the state of Louisiana in glass.

"It Straps On, headquartered in Covington since 1998, is one of only four worldwide manufacturers of stainless steel bands and brackets for street signs and banners. The Economic Development Foundation helped us apply for and obtain tax-free status on our equipment and building that we have enjoyed for 10 years. Thanks EDF."

**Steve Smith,**  
President  
It Straps On



REVISED STATUTES *continued*

19 and 21 of the Constitution of Louisiana, the district, acting through its board of commissioners, the governing authority of said district, is hereby granted all of the rights, powers, privileges, and immunities granted to political subdivisions for economic and industrial development purposes, including but not limited to the power of taxation, the power to incur debt and issue revenue and general obligation bonds, certificates of indebtedness, bond and certificate anticipation notes, and refunding bonds, subject to the limitations hereinafter provided.

**B.** The district created pursuant hereto shall be established for the primary object and purpose of promoting and encouraging the development of economic and industrial opportunities, stimulating the economy through renewed commerce and industry, and for the utilization and development of natural and human resources of the area by providing job opportunities.

**C.** The boundaries of the district shall be coterminous with the boundaries of St. Tammany Parish. Acts 1992, No. 995, §1; Acts 2003, No. 835, §1, eff. July 1, 2003.

**DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS**

- Peter J. Link, President** – Parish National Bank, Executive Vice President
- William “Ted” Mason, III, Vice President** – LaPorte, Sehr, Romig & Hand, President
- David “Dave” Anderson, Treasurer** – Hancock Bank of Louisiana, Senior Vice President
- Brenda Reine** – St. Tammany Parish Development District, Executive Director
- Nixon Adams** – Lake Pontchartrain Maritime Museum, Executive Director
- Jan M. Champagne** – Krebs, LaSalle, LeMieux Consultants, Inc., Chief Administrative Officer
- Dennis Herringshaw** – University of New Orleans Research & Technology Foundation, Vice-President of Technology
- Martin “Marty” Mayer** – Stirling Properties, President & Chief Executive Officer
- Ivan Miestchovich, Jr., Ph.D., CEcD** – University of New Orleans, Center for Economic Development, Director and Associate Professor of Finance
- J. William “Bill” Newton** – Greater Slidell Area Chamber of Commerce, Chief Executive Officer
- Donna O’Daniels** – St. Tammany Parish Tourist & Convention Commission, Executive Director
- William “Bill” Oiler** – St. Tammany Parish, Chief Administrative Officer
- Daniel “Danny” R. Schaus** – Cleco Power, LLC, Director of Governmental Affairs
- John E. Smith** – Whitney National Bank President, Northshore Banking
- Dewey Spies** – Self-employed

PG. 8/LEFT PHOTO: Citizens for Space Exploration 2006 Annual Trip in Washington, D.C., May 15-18, 2006. From left: Roy Keller, director, Louisiana Technology Transfer Office, associate director, LSU Louisiana Business & Technology Center Director; Lee Reid, partner, litigation, Adams And Reese, LLP; Brenda Reine, executive director, St. Tammany Economic Development; U.S. Senator David Vitter; Pam Meyer, director, regional business development, Greater New Orleans, Inc.; Clay Harper, president, High Performance Solutions.

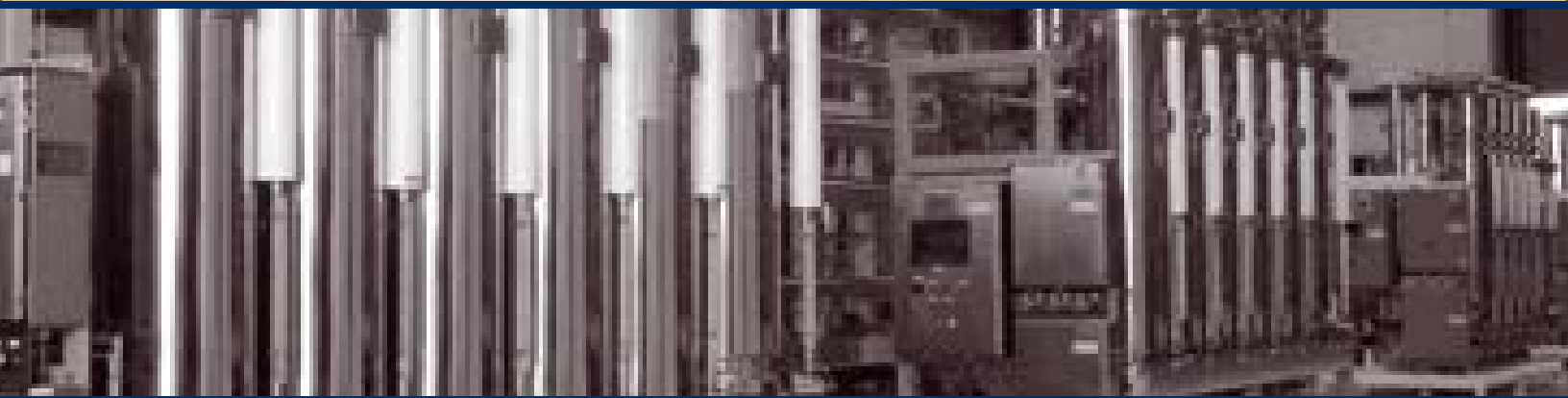
PG. 8/RIGHT PHOTO: Louisiana Technology Council’s 3rd Annual eWARDS Luncheon, October 24, 2006. From left: Brenda Reine, executive director, St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation; Mike Rich, assistant vice president, Planning Systems, Inc., and winner of LTC’s eWARD for “Best Application of Technology;” Louisiana State Representative A.G. Crowe, district 76.

INSIDE COVER PHOTO: Photograph by TopGunsInc.com

“Trade is hope. It first struck me at a meeting of Central and South American nations a year before: Americans view trade as commerce; the leaders of developing countries see it as a lifeline. For a democratically elected government to succeed, it must provide economic opportunity and a better life for its people, and trade is the vehicle that drives that growth.”

**Karen Hughes**  
Counselor to U.S. President George W. Bush  
Excerpt from her book, “Ten Minutes from Normal”  
pg. 300





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