

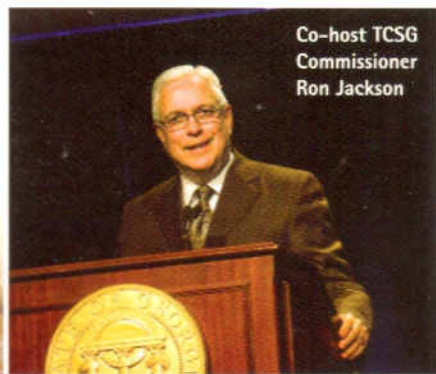
Keynote speaker
State of Georgia
COO Jim Lientz



Co-host GDECD
Deputy Commissioner
of Global Commerce
Heidi Green



Co-host TCSG
Commissioner
Ron Jackson



Rational Exuberance

Annual celebration focuses on manufacturers' successes

Former Federal Reserve Board Chair Alan Greenspan once attributed the stock bubbles of the 1990s to "irrational exuberance."

Recently, Georgia's Chief Operating Officer Jim Lientz reworked Greenspan's famous phrase when he delivered the

keynote remarks at the annual Manufacturing Appreciation Week Governor's Awards Luncheon held this past April at Atlanta's Cobb Galleria.

"Today, we will learn about three companies that give us good reason for what I would call 'rational

exuberance' regarding the future of manufacturing in Georgia," Lientz told the 1,000-plus manufacturers and other state leaders in attendance. "These are companies who are doing things right; they are stellar examples of what is state-of-the-art in manufacturing in the 21st century."

The Art of Manufacturing

To encourage Georgia's students to appreciate manufacturing's role in the state's economy, a statewide art contest is included each year, with scholarship prizes awarded to students for their designs of t-shirts, posters and placemats. Pictured are, from left: Quan Singletary of Moultrie, second place placemat; Anthony Lee of Riverdale, third place t-shirt; Logan Smith of Jeffersonville, second place poster; Robin Spratlin, Georgia Power general manager of economic development; David James of Meigs, first place poster; Georgia COO Jim Lientz; Kaitlin Brown of Montezuma, third



place poster; Song Kang of McDonough, second place t-shirt; Nabila Islam of Atlanta, first place placemat; Larry Callahan, Pattillo CEO; Lily Miller of Atlanta, first place t-shirt; and Dylan Shaw of Savannah, third place placemat. ■

2009 Sponsors



Those three companies, he announced, were the state's 2009 Manufacturers of the Year: Oracal, located in Black Creek; Alcan Packaging, in Peachtree City; and Toyo Tire North America Manufacturing, Inc., in White, Ga.

The Governor's Awards Luncheon is the highlight of the annual celebration of Manufacturing Appreciation Week in Georgia, a week that has been set aside for the past 15 years to pay tribute the people and companies in the state who bring value to the economy by adding value to the goods they produce. The event is co-hosted by the Technical College System of Georgia and Georgia Department of Economic Development.

The manufacturing sector employs more than 400,000 Georgians at nearly 10,000 facilities across the state, contributing more than \$100 billion to the state's economy annually. 



TOYO TIRES

"I owe a very, very special thanks to Georgia Quick Start and especially its director, Jackie Rohosky. We decided to locate in Georgia due to Quick Start – they tipped the scales in that decision. They saved us valuable time in our startup because they took care of the training, and we were able to focus our resources on managing our startup and developing technology for our product."

– Jim Hawk, Toyo Tire North America President and CEO

Large Manufacturer

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– Jim Hawk, Toyo Tire North America President and CEO



ALCAN PACKAGING



Medium Manufacturer

"On behalf of all of our 160 Peachtree City employees, I'm honored, and I'm humbled. Evidenced by how large this group is, there is passion for manufacturing in Georgia."

– Chris Turk, Alcan Packaging Site Manager



ORACAL

Small Manufacturer

"Our confidence in the economy and in our employees is paying off. Our success in Georgia is due to our employees and key partners."

– Steve Mauney,
Oracal Vice President of Operations

"[Quick Start will] make you successful and bring you to this point. Also, you can't find better employees than those coming out of Savannah Technical College. They add value to your company."

– Christian Hersacher, Oracal Director of Engineering and Production