YOU'RE INVITED - CLTT INDUSTRY SUMMIT

Come join us and network at the CLTT Industry Advisory Council Summit on May 17, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University of Southern Mississippi campus in Long Beach. The Summit will be held on the 3rd Floor of the Library.

We will have the great pleasure to have as special guest speaker Senator Willie Simmons, Chairman of the Highway and Transportation Committee. We will also present a report on the accomplishments and happenings of the Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation (CLTT) at Southern Miss and engage you in conversation to get your ideas about future activities of the CLTT to meet your needs and opportunities of the Gulf region.

Your attendance and engagement in this Industry Summit is very important as we continue to build and share the CLTT to support your organizations and the Gulf Region opportunities and needs.

Working lunch will be served (seating is limited). This event is FREE of charge.

Register Now!

Look forward to seeing you in Long Beach!

Tulio Subaran, Ph. D.
Director, Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation

Learn more about the CLTT Industry Summit

MEASURING THE SUCCESS OF FREIGHT-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Columbus Lowndes County Development Link (the Link), located in Mississippi’s Golden Triangle, has adopted the Polkcom Corporation Economic Strength Rankings to evaluate the success of its economic development efforts. The rankings of Metropolitan Statistical Areas and Micropolitan Statistical Areas attempt to measure the condition of a region’s economy and the standard of living. The rankings are based on 24 metrics broken down by groups that attempt to capture the quality of the economy (e.g., jobs, wages, and income), how the economy is doing (e.g., retail and construction numbers), and negative factors (e.g., welfare and Medicaid payments). Based on these national rankings, the Link’s industrial attraction efforts that leverage its multi-modal transportation infrastructure have moved the area from the nation’s 274th ranked metropolitan area in 2004 to 57th today. Making it one of the few Mississippi areas to move up the national rankings (see chart). The area has attracted over $4 billion in investment including several new, 125,000, and cultivation of (Pecan). One of the keys to the region's success has been the integration of its railroads, inland waterways, and road. And that is an example of successful freight-based economic development.

Learn more | View Chart

TRANSPORTATION BOOK RECOMMENDATION:
THE BIG ROADS BY EARL SWIFT

For anyone interested in the U.S. Interstate system and why the highways are the way they are today, The Big Roads: The United Story of the Engineers, Visionaries, and Trailblazers Who Created the American Superhighways by Earl Swift is an interesting read. He brings out a number of important points such as highways being developed by the private sector and only later did the federal government take the lead role as it does today and how the highways got their number designation. The author also attempts to debunk a number of commonly accepted ideas about the highway system such that President Dwight D. Eisenhower founded the Interstate system, that there are straight stretches for military purposes to land, and that Thomase MacMado, who served as the chief of the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) for 34 years, from 1919 to 1953, was an unsympathetic technocrat who blamed the time between state and federal responsibility.

Learn more