



## ALBANY-DOUGHERTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2010

Contact: Bárbara Rivera Holmes  
(229) 434-0044  
bholmes@choosealbany.com

### EDC announces industry awards winners

**Albany, Ga.** – Today at the Rise N Shine breakfast the Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission announced the winners of the 2010 Industry Awards, which culminated the inaugural Albany-Dougherty Industry Celebration Week.

The purpose of the celebration week is three-fold: Expose residents to the variety of industries located in the community; create exposure for local industries; and honor the accomplishments of industries. The 2010 awards were restructured from years past.

“In rethinking the way we recognize our industrial partners, two goals were to educate the public and the business community on the incredible and diverse industries located here,” said EDC President Ted Clem.

Earlier in the week the EDC hosted an industry reception and Albany-based Thrush Aircraft hosted an open house at its facility. Both events were part of industry celebration week.

At Wednesday’s breakfast, the EDC honored industries in four categories: economic impact; excellence in innovation; global commerce; and corporate community citizenship, which has been named the Good Life City Award.

The winners and finalists are for the 2010 industry awards are:

#### **Economic Impact**

- Coats & Clark
- \* Equinox Chemical Co.
- Exopack

#### **Excellence in Innovation**

- \* Maintenance Center Albany
- MillerCoors
- Pratt Industries/Target Container Co.

#### **Global Commerce**

- \* Equinox Chemical Co.

- Thrush Aircraft
- Sasco Chemical Group

**Good Life City Award (corporate community citizenship)**

- MillerCoors
- \* Procter & Gamble

*\*Denotes winner*

Please see the attached document for details on each industry.

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## **ALBANY-DOUGHERTY INDUSTRY CELEBRATION WEEK AWARD WINNERS AND FINALISTS**

### **GLOBAL COMMERCE**

#### **\* Thrush Aircraft**

Albany-based Thrush Aircraft is one of two global manufacturers of crop duster airplanes, which supply an aerial application used for controlling insects, weeds and diseases that threaten crops. Thrush Aircrafts are also used to fertilize crops and forests, fight wild fires, control insects and plant seeds from the air. Most recently, Thrush announced an exclusive partnership with General Electric Aviation that will place GE engines in Thrush aircrafts. Thrush employs 75 people. Of Thrush's total sales, 80 percent are export.

#### **Equinox Chemical Co.**

Equinox Chemical Co. specializes in the preparation and design of organic molecules and offers a wide range of synthetic services servicing government, R&D, pharmaceutical, food, flavor, fragrance, industrial coatings, polymers, semiconductor, alternative fuels and specialty chemical sectors. The Albany-based company, whose customers span the globe, employs 33 people.

#### **Sasco Chemical Group**

Albany-based Sasco Chemicals manufactures industrial cleaning supplies, slurry and powder dip for rubber products. Sasco exports to Asia, Canada, Europe, Mexico and South America. The company employs 41 people.

### **EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION**

#### **\*Maintenance Center Albany**

Maintenance Center Albany, a tenant aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base-Albany, is a standout operation of the U.S. Department of Defense. The depot has been recognized and awarded by the DOD several times for life-saving developments and is the backbone of the Marine Corps' ability to sustain the warfighters' combat equipment. Most recently, MCA was responsible for the Mobile Trauma Bay, a mobile metal-encased unit in which Marine medical professionals can tend to the sick and wounded more safely than in standard tents. It is the first such unit in the U.S. Armed Forces. From concept to delivery in Afghanistan, MCA's Engineering and Integration Team developed the Mobile Trauma Bay in 80 days. Today, there are nine Mobile Trauma Bays. MCA employs about 1,900 workers.

#### **MillerCoors**

What is today known as the Albany MillerCoors brewery, one of the top MC breweries in the country, set up shop locally in 1979. Throughout its history, MillerCoors has been putting forward-thinking practices into play – from Coors' patenting of a cork and bottle-washing machine to the introduction of the cold-activated bottle. In 2009, Albany's MillerCoors brewery announced it would brew Coors Light. At the same time, the local brewery installed a series of innovative machines made in France. MillerCoors in Albany employs 650.

#### **Pratt Industries**

Pratt Industries is a 100 percent green industry that operates a conversion facility in Albany-Dougherty County. Pratt's mission is simple: To be the best vertically-integrated paper, packaging and resource recovery company in the Western Hemisphere. The company is America's sixth-largest paper and packaging company, with more than 3,500 "green-collar"

employees. Georgia-based Pratt was founded about two decades ago and operates facilities in more than 20 states. Pratt operates three of the most modern, cost-effective 100 percent-recycled paper mills in the country. In Albany, Pratt produces corrugated packaging and employs about 50 workers.

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT**

### **\*Equinox Chemical Co.**

Equinox Chemical Co. started in 2003 with a handful of employees. Today, Equinox is a business with a global reach. Equinox specializes in the preparation and design of organic molecules and offers a wide range of synthetic services servicing government, R&D, pharmaceutical, food, flavor, fragrance, industrial coatings, polymers, semiconductor, alternative fuels and specialty chemical sectors. The Albany-based company employs 33 people. In late 2009, the company announced expansion plans and a capital investment in Albany-Dougherty County. Equinox employs 33 people and plans to hire another 40 – to include more administrative support, Ph.D. chemists, engineers and sales and marketing professionals – by year's end.

### **Exopack**

Albany's Exopack production facility is one of 18 the company operates in the United States and the United Kingdom. Exopack develops, manufactures and sources paper and plastic flexible packaging solutions and film coatings for a variety of consumer and industrial applications including pet products, food and beverage, medical device, lawn and garden, agriculture, chemicals and minerals, building materials and electronics. The Albany facility focuses on plastic flexible packaging. Exopack was established in 2001, but its roots go back more than 100 years, with the invention of the original paper grocery bag. Locally, Exopack employs 45 and recently expanded its Albany facility.

### **Coats & Clark**

Coats & Clark, the world's largest textile conglomerate, has been a member of the Albany-Dougherty industrial community for more than 60 years. The Albany manufacturing facility is the only U.S. facility that produces yarn. Most recently, Coats & Clark consolidated its North American distribution operations to Albany, making the city its North American distribution hub. Coats' manufacturing facility employs about 300 people. Its expanded distribution operation includes a capital investment as well as the hiring of up to 25 people. Globally, the conglomerate employs 21,000 people in 71 countries.

## **GOOD LIFE CITY (CORPORATE COMMUNITY CITIZENSHIP)**

### **\*Procter & Gamble**

Procter & Gamble, which locally produces Bounty and Charmin, has been a member of the Albany-Dougherty County since 1972. During its decades here, it has become an integral member of the community, partnering not only on matters of industry and business climate but also on matters of quality of life. P&G makes charitable community contributions in areas including education, health and social services, arts/cultural/environmental, crime prevention and civic affairs.

### **MillerCoors**

MillerCoors located in Albany-Dougherty County in 1979. Since then, the facility has become one of the top MillerCoors breweries in the nation. Throughout the years the facility has partnered on plethora of programs benefitting the community, including Chehaw's "Sip and

Safari” event, Leadership Georgia, the Georgia Environmental Leadership’s Albany meeting, Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful, the SOWEGA Council on Aging’s Meals on Wheels program and the Georgia Conservancy’s “Blueprint for Success.”

\* *Denotes winner*