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FIRST COAST MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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MAY 2006 (PART I) 5/15/2006

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Legislative Wins for Manufacturers



Florida manufacturers were big winners in the 2006 Florida Legislative Session that ended May 5. Our manufacturers, especially small and mid-sized companies, will be able to compete more effectively because of the legislature's actions. Following are the most significant measure passed that affect manufacturers:

- * Sales tax exemption for industrial machinery and equipment purchases passed with overwhelming support. The bill is effective July 1, 2006. This was our top priority. Thank you, Duval Delegation (chaired by Senator Tony Hill), which supported unanimously this bill in the House and Senate. Elimination of the \$50,000 sales tax cap means that no longer will a manufacturer have to purchase over \$830,000 of equipment before being exempt from this tax. Florida manufacturers now have the same sales tax relief that competitors in other Southeastern states have long enjoyed. This completes the elimination of four significant taxes on manufacturers that FCMA began working on in 1994. Persistence can be rewarded!
- * Joint and several liability was repealed. Simply stated, each party is now responsible for its share of damages! This is the most significant tort reform legislation passed in two decades. Speaker Allan Bense and President Tom Lee together with Governor Jeb Bush clearly understand that economic development and job creation can be achieved while providing equity in the legal system. A very special thanks to former Speaker John Thrasher for his perseverance over the years on this critical issue for Florida business.
- * Sales tax exemption for R&D sailed through with token opposition and is effective July 1, 2006. This will be of major benefit to leading-edge companies, especially in manufacturing. Again, this removes an obstacle for companies in Florida competing with counterparts in other states. This will help with job creation in high-skill, high-wage companies.

There were other bills passed that have some impact on manufacturing, especially funding for workforce development. I would ask each FCMA member to contact your Duval Delegation member of the legislature and thank each for the consistent,

uniform, and steadfast support of our issues. Their support has extended over several years and is key to our 2006 success. Delegation members are:

Representative Aaron Bean
Florida House of Representatives
905 S. 8th Street
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034-3706
aaron.bean@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Stan Jordan
Florida House of Representatives
3414-A N. Main Street
Jacksonville, FL 32206-2131
stan.jordan@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Jennifer Carroll
Florida House of Representatives
8970 103rd St., Suite 10
Jacksonville, FL 32210-8604
jennifer.carroll@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Dick Kravitz
Florida House of Representatives 155 Blanding Blvd.,
Suite 10
Orange Park, FL 32073-2624
Dick.kravitz@myfloridahouse.gov

Senator Tony Hill
Florida State Senate
5600 New Kings Road, Suite 5
Jacksonville, FL 32209-2146
hill.tony.web@flsenate.gov

Representative Don Davis
Florida House of Representatives
2320 S. Third Street, Suite 3
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Don.davis@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Mark Mahon
Florida House of Representatives 233 East Bay Street,
Suite 1133
Jacksonville, FL 32202-5414
Mark.mahon@myfloridahouse.gov

Senator Jim King
Florida State Senate
9485 Regency Square Blvd.
Suite 108
Jacksonville, FL 32225
king.james.web@flsenate.gov

Representative Terry Fields
Florida House of Representatives
435 Clark Road, Suite 307
Jacksonville, FL 32218-5558
terry.fields@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Joe Pickens
Florida House of Representatives
3841 Reid Street, Suite 5
Palatka, FL 32177-2509
Joe.pickens@myfloridahouse.gov

Senator Stephen R. Wise
Florida State Senate
1460 Cassat Avenue, Suite B
Jacksonville, FL 32205
Wise.stephen.web@flsenate.gov

Representative Audrey Gibson
Florida House of Representatives
101 East Union Street, Suite 402
Jacksonville, FL 32202
audrey.gibson@myfloridahouse.gov

Representative Bill Proctor
Florida House of Representatives 900 State Road 16,
Suite 2
St. Augustine, FL 32084
Bill.proctor@myfloridahouse.gov

The lesson learned is that FCMA must continue to be actively involved in the legislative process—both local and state. The government is manufacturers' biggest partner, and we must continue to educate the elected officials on manufacturing's importance to Florida's future. We must constantly emphasize: *Improving the Economy; Educating the Workforce; and, Protecting the Environment.*

In the meantime, let's celebrate our 2006 success!

NEW MEMBERS

Canam Steel

Russ Rocco, Vice President/General Manager
904-781-0898
140 South Ellis Road, Jacksonville 32254

Canam Steel Corporation is involved mainly in the design and fabrication of metal construction components. The Jacksonville plant began operation in 1995 - one of 22 plants operating in Canada, the U.S., Mexico and France. Products: open-web steel joists and joist girders, structural steel trusses, beams and columns, structural steel for bridges, steel deck, purlins and girts, Hambro Floor Systems, Murox Building System and pre-engineered steel buildings.

BRB Fabrications

Robert L. Bernard, President
904-781-2733
2120 Lane Avenue North, Jacksonville 32254

Manufacturer of portable storage containers for *Go Mini's, LLC.*

Smith, Gambrell & Russell

Patricia J. Hill, Esq. - Partner
904-598-6140
50 North Laura Street, Suite 2600 - Jacksonville 32202

Law firm.

Unisource

Bruce Spencer, Packaging Manager
904-607-1524
330 Stevens Street, Jacksonville 32254

Distributor of paper products.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

June 26 at Ring Power's World Golf Village Headquarters

No--we didn't forget to mail you a meeting notice! The May 8 golf outing took the place of our monthly General Membership meeting.

Below is the **correction** for the JUNE meeting, which was originally scheduled for the Jacksonville location of the Ring Lift division of Ring Power. We will be at the St. Augustine location. Details for our next meeting:

When: **Monday, June 26**
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Where: **Ring Power**
500 World Commerce Parkway
St. Augustine
(World Golf Village off I-95)



Special Guest: **Senator Jim King**
2006 Legislative Update

RSVP: Email information@fcmaweb.com

SHORT TAKES

International Business Survey

The following survey is part of a project undertaken by the City of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce. Its purpose is twofold:

- (1) to develop a directory of local internationally active companies, and
- (2) to identify both explicit and potential service needs for any Jacksonville company that is or is interested in international business activities.

Your response to this survey will be most helpful in aiding efforts to increase and improve international involvement in Jacksonville's economic community. With only 31 questions, we think this survey should take less than 10 minutes of your time. If a question asks for information that you would prefer to remain confidential, feel free to leave that question unanswered.

Click [here](#) for the link to the survey.

Incoming Council President's Reception



Councilman Michael Corrigan (and fellow FCMA manufacturing member - president of Nu-Trend Plastics) will be installed as Council President and will officially assume the position on July 1.

Each year FCMA solicits members to help fund this event. Please click [here](#) to download form, complete and return to the FCMA office no later than June 16. Each contributor will receive a personal invitation to attend the reception, which will be held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, June 29, at the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts (Jacoby Hall).

NAMES IN THE NEWS

Advanced Disposal

Andy Crawford, Founder, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of Advanced Disposal Services, Inc., was inducted into the Environmental Industry Association's (EIA) Hall of Fame with its Lifetime Achievement Award on April 5 in Washington, DC. EIA is the non-profit trade association that represents for-profit companies in the waste service and equipment industry throughout North America. The EIA Hall of Fame is for industry leaders who over the course of more than 25 years have made significant contributions to both the industry and the community. *Congratulations, Andy!*



PAST GENERAL MEETING

UF Shands Proton Therapy Institute

FCMA appreciated the hospitality of Stewart Klein (Executive Director) and Dr. Nancy Mendenhall (Medical Director) of the University of Florida Shands Proton Therapy Institute for hosting the April 24 event. This was a rare opportunity to be able to visit this state-of-the-art facility. We also send a special thank you to Patrick Lubitsky for facilitating this event.



FCMA Golf Tournament - Big Winner is UNF Engineering Scholarship!

A great time was had by all (a sell-out crowd of 144) on Monday, May 8, at the South Hampton Golf and Country Club. Thank you to the following hole sponsors:

Aerostar Environmental Services
Ameritape, Inc.
Anheuser-Busch, Inc.
ATS - Services
Auld & White Constructors, Inc.
Cintas - The Uniform People
Coastal Industries
DATA Road
FLAMCO
Florida Custom Marble
Florida East Coast Railway
Florida Power & Light

Ironstone Bank
KAMAN Aerospace
Kelly Services
Lassiter Ware Insurance
Medtronic
Miller Electric Company
Moran Environmental Services
Pilot Pen Corporation
Quality Sign Company
Relizon
Rogers Towers, PA



**Georgia-Pacific Corporation
GeoSyntec Consultants
Golder Associates Inc.
The Grimes Companies
HEPACO
Humana**

**Siemens Technology
Smurfit-Stone Corporation
Southland Waste Systems
Swisher International
U. S. Gypsum
WJ Sapp Railroad Contractor
Zabatt**

One of the best things about the FCMA annual outing is its "tee" bags which are given to each player and volunteer. A special thanks to the following companies who donated bag stuffers and other prizes for our 14th annual event:

**3M Company
ADP TotalSource
Aerotek
A-Jax Company Inc.
Allstates WorldCargo
Ameritape, Inc.
Anheuser-Busch
The ARC Jacksonville
Armor Holdings
Atlantic Marine, Inc.
Auld & White Constructors, Inc.
Bacardi Bottling Corp.
Barloworld
C F Machine & Tool, Inc.
Cecil W. Powell & Co.
Cintas - The Uniform People
Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Jax
Coffman Coleman Andrews & Grogan
Colomer USA, Inc.
Columbia Analytical Services
Computer Solutions Group Enterprises
CORA Health
CSX Transportation, Inc.
DataRoad, Inc.
Dragon Industries/
Florida School for the Deaf**

**Ellis & Associates, Inc.
Empire Communications
Eng Engineering, Inc.
Florida Custom Marble
Fla East Coast Railway
Florida Times-Union
Fowler White Boggs Banker
GeoSyntec
Golder Associates
Great Atlantic Outfitters
Humana, Inc.
Hunter & Associates
Industrial Control Engineering
International Paper/Box USA
IronStone Bank
JAXPORT
Johnson Matthey Zircon
Kelly Services, Inc.
Lassiter Ware Insurance
Lean Street
Maxwell House (Kraft)
Medtronic
Moretrench Environmental
The Oasis Group
Outsource Logistics
Pal-King**

**Peterbrooke Chocolatier
Pilot Pen Corporation
Pine Castle, Inc.
Presser, Lahnen & Edelman
Randstad
Rayonier
Rex Corporation
Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc.
Safe-Lite Optical
Shands HealthCare
Smith Hulsey & Busey
Solantic
Southland Waste Systems
Specialties USA
Suncoast Industrial Services
Swisher International
Thompson Electric
TTX Company
Turner Pest Control
Unishippers
US LEC
Wachovia
WLorenz Surgical
Watson Relocation
Wyle Laboratories
Zabatt, Inc.**

1ST PLACE WINNERS - PILOT PEN



2ND PLACE WINNERS - SIEMENS



3RD PLACE WINNERS - CINTAS



Click [here](#) for additional photos.

PLATINUM PLUS MEMBERS

2006 Contributors

Platinum Plus was designed to provide added benefits and recognition for your company and to help fund specific FCMA initiatives, such as:

- Lobbying efforts to eliminate state taxes on manufacturing inputs
- Promote manufacturing

■ Manufacturers Association of Florida (MAF)

Benefits include:

- * Promotion of your company at FCMA events and in VOICE monthly
- * Prepaid fees to select workshops/seminars based on contribution

We would like to recognize this year's contributors:

Akerman Senterfitt
Armor Holdings
Ameritape, Inc.
Auld & White Constructors, Inc.
Automation Engineering
FMC Corporation
Florida Custom Marble
Gerdau-Ameristeel
Goodrich Corporation

Gulf Atlantic Equipment
International Paper (Box USA)
Main Recycling
Maxwell House Coffee - Kraft
Moran Environmental Recovery
Phoenix Products
Rex Corporation
Rogers Towers
Smith, Gambrell & Russell
WhiteWave Foods

If you are interested in joining this list of contributors, contact [Sherri Mitchell](#).

TO BE CONTINUED...

Additional Information

Due to the number of activities during the past month, we will continue the newsletter with May 2006 (Part II) to be published next week.

Stay tuned . . .

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