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Press Release

Ohio Wins *Site Selection* Magazine's Coveted Governor's Cup Award for 2003

Atlanta, Feb. 26, 2004: Ohio has won the 2003 *Site Selection* Governor's Cup, which the 50-year-old Atlanta-based magazine awards annually to the U.S. state with the most new and expanded corporate facilities as tracked by Conway Data Inc.'s New Plant database. Conway Data publishes *Site Selection*, the oldest publication in the corporate real estate and economic development field, and the official publication of the Industrial Asset Management Council (IAMC, at www.iamc.org). *Site Selection's* yearly analyses are regarded by corporate real estate analysts as "the industry scoreboard." The magazine's circulation base consists of 44,000 executives involved in corporate site selection decisions, most at the CEO/President/CFO/COO level.

"Our number one priority is to create good jobs in Ohio, and this award demonstrates we are aggressively moving forward," says Governor Bob Taft. "But we must build on this success through our Jobs Bill, Jobs Cabinet and a continued daily focus on creating jobs for Ohioans."

New Plant focuses on new *corporate* location projects with significant impact. *Site Selection* does not track retail and government projects, or schools and hospitals. New facilities and expansions included in the analyses must meet at least one of three criteria: (a) involve a capital investment of at least US\$1 million, (b) create at least 50 new jobs or (c) add at least 20,000 sq. ft. (1,858 sq. m.) of new floor area.

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“The Governor’s Cup award is no stranger to Ohio, which won the award for three consecutive years beginning in 1993,” says Mark Arend, editor of *Site Selection*. “I am pleased to recognize Governor Taft and his economic development team for their success in attracting capital investment to Ohio in 2003 with 587 new projects. This award is the direct result of the state’s commitment to and focus on economic development.”

Rounding out the top five states are New York with 552 projects, Texas (489), Illinois (451) and Michigan (448).

More New Plant Tallies

Site Selection’s March issue also carries other rankings based on Conway Data’s New Plant Database.

The Top Metros for new and expanded facilities in 2003, for example, were Chicago (a third consecutive first-place finish), New York City and Detroit, Mich. Other metro areas in the top 10 are Dallas-Fort. Worth, Texas; Philadelphia, Pa; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio; and Cleveland, Ohio. In the magazine’s Top Small Towns ranking, Traverse City, Mich., took top honors, followed by Plattsburgh, N.Y., Bowling Green, Ky., Mooresville, N.C., and the Illinois towns of Danville and Effingham. And 2003’s Top Industries for total new and expanded facilities were transportation equipment, chemicals, food processing, plastics and fabricated metal products manufacturing.

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(Charts for 2003 New Plant tallies follow immediately in this release.)

**Overall Top 10 States
2003 Governor's Cup**

Rank	State	Totals
1.....	Ohio	587
2.....	New York	552
3.....	Texas	489
4.....	Illinois	451
5.....	Michigan	448
6.....	Pennsylvania	411
7.....	Indiana	401
8.....	Virginia	258
9.....	Florida	219
10.....	Kentucky	211

**Top 10 Metro Areas:
New and Expanded Facilities**

Rank	Metro Area	Totals
1...	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis	336
2...	New York-Newark-Edison, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	291
3...	Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich.	201
4...	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas	185
5...	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa.-NJ.	143
6...	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, Minn.-Wis.	141
7...	Indianapolis, Ind.	116
8...	Cincinnati-Middletown, Ohio-Ky.-Ind.	111
9...	Columbus, Ohio	107
10	Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, Ohio	96

**Top U.S. Small Towns
(2001 to 2003)**

Rank	Town	Projects
1.....	Traverse City, Mich.	34
2.....	Plattsburgh, N.Y.	27
3.....	Bowling Green, Ky.	24
4.....	Mooreville, N.C.	23
5.....	Danville, Ill.	19
5.....	Effingham, Ill.	19
5.....	Morristown, Tenn.	19
8.....	Statesville, N.C.	17
9.....	Richmond, Ind.	15
10.....	Cullman, Ala.	14
10	Findlay, Ohio	14
10.....	Henderson, N.C.	14

Top Industries

Industry	N	E	Projects
Transportation-Equipment	138	272	410
Chemicals-Pharmaceuticals	121	179	300
Food Processing	89	180	269
Plastic & Rubber Products	88	150	238
Fabricated Metal Products	67	131	198

N = New
E = Expansion