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Press Release

Texas Wins *Site Selection* Magazine's Coveted Governor's Cup Award for 2004

Atlanta, March 3, 2005: Texas has won the 2004 *Site Selection* Governor's Cup, which the 51-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.

Texas claims the 2004 Governor's Cup with 668 projects. It last won in 1992, when the state tied with North Carolina at 405 projects. Texas' fair-weather business climate is a key factor in the state's desirability as a location in which to establish or expand operations. The state placed first in *Site Selection*'s annual ranking of state business climates, which was the subject of the magazine's November 2004 cover story. But just as critical is the \$295 million Texas Enterprise Fund, which the governor and his economic development team use to help close deals and bring projects to the state.

Governor Rick Perry shares credit with the state legislature in making the Lone Star State competitive. "The legislature's committing \$295 million to that fund was a short-term difficult

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decision to make because of the economic situation we were in," he told *Site Selection*. "But long term, it was very visionary relative to the job creation climate in Texas."

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.

"Texas' claim to the Governor's Cup for 2004 underscores its commitment to attracting business and industry," says Mark Arend, editor of *Site Selection*. "Governor Perry and his team clearly intend to make Texas an economic development powerhouse, and this award recognizes the state's progress toward that end."

Rounding out the top five states are Michigan with 653 projects, Ohio (620), New York (517) and Illinois (356).

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 2004, for example, were Dallas-Fort. Worth; Detroit; Chicago; Los Angeles; New York City; Atlanta; Houston; Columbus, Ohio; Cincinnati; and Philadelphia. The magazine introduced a new ranking in its March 2005 issue – Top Micropolitans, which are cities of 10,000 to 50,000 people and cover at least one county. The top three micropolitans for 2004 are Statesville-Mooresville, N.C.; Traverse City, Mich.; and Cullman, Ala. And 2004's Top Industries for total new and expanded facilities were transportation equipment, chemicals, food processing, electronics and plastics.

The Governor's Cup, Top Metros and Top Micros stories are now posted at www.siteselection.com.

(Charts for 2004 New Plant tallies are attached to this release.)

2004 Top 10 States
By Number of Projects

Rank	State	Count
1	Texas	668
2	Michigan	653
3	Ohio	620
4	New York	517
5	Illinois	356
6	California	355
T7	Georgia	319
T7	Pennsylvania	319
9	North Carolina	301
10	Virginia	273

Source: Conway Data, Inc.'s New Plant Database

2004 Top Metros — Facilities

Rank	Metro Area	Facility Count
1	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas	277
2	Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich.	263
3	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	238
4	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif.	207
5	New York-Newark-Edison, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	205
6	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, Ga.	146
7	Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land, Texas	136
8	Columbus, Ohio	115
9	Cincinnati-Middletown, Ohio-Ky.-Ind.	112
10	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa.-N.J.	105

Count includes expanded and new facilities.
Source: Conway Data, Inc.'s New Plant Database

2004 Top Industries
By Number of Projects

Industry	New	Exp.	Total
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	256	357	613
Chemicals/Pharmaceuticals	237	200	437
Food Processing	142	235	377
Electronics	167	143	310
Plastics & Rubber Products	115	182	297

Source: Conway Data, Inc.'s New Plant Database

2004 Micropolitans Facilities

Rank	Micropolitan Area	Count
1	Statesville-Mooresville, N.C.	24
2	Traverse City, Mich.	20
3	Cullman, Ala.	18
T4	Plattsburgh, N.Y.	15
T4	Hutchinson, Kan.	15
6	Tupelo, Miss.	14
7	Batavia, N.Y.	12
8	Lexington-Thomasville, N.C.	11
T9	Paducah, Ky.-Ill.	10
T9	Zanesville, Ohio	10
T9	Albert Lea, Minn.	10

Count includes new and expanded facilities.
Source: Conway Data, Inc.'s New Plant Database