



**MORGAN  
COUNTY**

ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION

## 2019-2020 Annual Report



**Ready...Set...Recover!**

# EXPANDING INDUSTRIES IN MORGAN COUNTY

Even with all of the uncertainty and industries being required to change the way they operate their facilities due to COVID-19, Morgan County continued to see industries expanding and/or upgrading their local facilities this fiscal year. Seventeen local manufacturing companies invested in their facilities from October 2019 to September 2020, by adding equipment, square footage, jobs, or updating safety and production procedures, etc. We are proud of the way our industries have continued to improve their operations and facilities and provide quality jobs for our local citizens.

## Fiscal Year October 2019 – September 2020

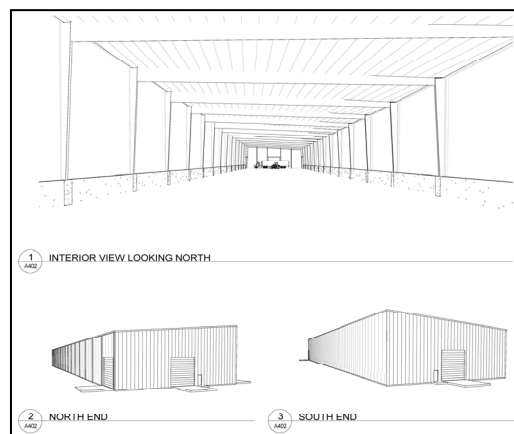
<u>EXPANDING COMPANIES</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>INVESTMENT</u>	<u>JOBS</u>
Alabama Farmers Co-op	Decatur	\$ 7,402,000	9
Applegate Fibers South (Cell Pak)	Decatur	\$ 125,000	0
Ascend Performance Materials	Decatur	\$175,660,500	10
Diamond Pro Corporation	Hartselle	\$ 1,000,000	50
GE Appliances, a Haier Co.	Decatur	\$ 12,400,000	0
JIT Industries	Hartselle	\$ 1,000,000	6
Lektron	Hartselle	\$ 1,500,000	5
Valley Rubber	Falkville	\$ 825,000	0
<b>*TOTAL Expansions:</b>	<b>17</b>		
<b>*TOTAL Investment &amp; Jobs:</b>		<b>\$301,839,500</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>*MORGAN COUNTY TOTALS:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$301,839,500</b>	<b>91</b>

\*Due to confidentiality, some jobs and investment figures are not included individually, but the final totals reflect all.

### Inland Port Grants Benefit Mallard-Fox Creek River Port Facilities

The Decatur-Morgan County Port Authority received two grants from Governor Kay Ivey and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA). The grants were awarded from funds Senator Arthur Orr added to the state's new Alabama Inland Port Infrastructure Program that will increase waterway traffic, reduce highway traffic, and help industries dependent upon navigable water routes to ship finished products and import raw materials.

The \$2,100,000 in grant funding will assist in the construction of two new warehouses adding an additional 70,000 square feet of indoor storage at the port. The estimated total investment in the new facilities is expected to be \$3,300,000.



## Morgan Center Business Park Redesignated as an AdvantageSite

Morgan Center Business Park, located at I-65 and Thompson Road in Hartselle, AL, recently received redesignation as an Alabama AdvantageSite by the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. The site was first certified as an AdvantageSite in 2012, the year of the park's Ribbon Cutting ceremony. AdvantageSite is an industrial site preparedness program designed to make Alabama more competitive for companies considering relocating to the state. The community submitting for designation/redesignation of a site in their area, must provide many sources of documentation such as letters from utility companies serving the site confirming their capability of service, availability of the site and ownership information, and environmental and geotechnical data. The last redesignation, prior to 2020, was in 2016. Paperwork is submitted every four years to maintain the designation.



### Carolyn Poovey Retires from MCEDA

Carolyn Poovey retired in September 2020 from MCEDA/Decatur-Morgan County Port Authority after 32 years of service. Carolyn was hired by Tommy Ed Roberts in April 1988 to be the Financial Administrator, specifically, to handle the oversight of the financial matters related to the construction of the Mallard-Fox Creek Industrial Park. She was witness to many milestone additions to the Morgan County industrial base, such as Daikin America, Toray Composite and Fluorofibers, Nucor Steel & the construction of Morgan Center Business Park. Carolyn was a wonderful asset to both of our organizations and we wish her the very best in her retirement.

### Morgan County Workforce in 2020

Supporting the regional workforce looked a little different in 2020. In March, MCEDA partnered with several groups to host another successful Second Chance Career Fair. Employers and job seekers both appreciated this targeted effort and MCEDA hopes to continue these events in the future. MCEDA also promoted the Upwards Alabama Regional Virtual Career Fair after the onset of lockdown to support furloughed job seekers. Horizon Point Consulting administered the annual Wage Survey in combination with Madison, Limestone, and Lawrence counties. This year's data also included benefit information as well. Vice President Penny Townson completed the TVA Workforce course with emphasis on framing the local workforce for recruitment and retention and building up the workforce pipeline.

As a result of COVID-19, annual retention visits were cut short. However, MCEDA continued conversations virtually where possible and remains available and committed to building up our local companies.

### Sharla Stewart Joins MCEDA & Port Authority Team

Sharla Stewart has over 20 years of accounting experience, both in the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. She is a Morgan County native, graduating from Hartselle High School in 1994. Sharla received a B.S. in Accounting from the University of Alabama in 1997. Sharla and her family currently reside in Hartselle, where her son, Parker, is in 10th grade. Her husband, Wesley, is a Wealth Advisor for Regions Bank in Huntsville. They attend Lifepoint Church in Decatur.



# Membership

We would like to thank our new and renewing members that invest in our organization throughout the year. We appreciate your support and look forward to working with you in the future.

3M Company  
 AFC, Inc.  
 Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.  
 Alabama Technology Network  
 Alliance Sand and Aggregates, LLC  
 AlphaPet Inc.  
 Ascend Performance Materials  
 Associated Builders & Contractors of North Alabama  
 Automatic SMP  
 Bank Independent  
 Barge Design Solutions Inc.  
 BBVA Compass  
 Belt & Bruner, PC  
 Brand, Blackwell & Company  
 BRPH  
 Bunge North America, Inc.  
 Byrd Maintenance Services, Inc.  
 Byrd, Smalley & Adams PC  
 C & C Warehouse  
 C & L Wood Products, Inc.  
 Calhoun Community College  
 Chapman Sisson Architects  
 Chenault Photography  
 City of Decatur  
 City of Hartselle  
 Concrete Fiber Solutions  
 Contractor Service & Fabrication, Inc.  
 Cook's Pest Control, Inc.  
 Corporate Warehouse Services, Inc.  
 Corum's Building & Farm Center  
 Daikin America, Inc.  
 Decatur Career Center  
 Decatur Coca-Cola Bottling Company  
 Decatur Corridor Development, Inc.  
 Decatur Daily  
 Decatur Morgan Hospital  
 Decatur Morgan Hospital Foundation  
 Decatur Printing Solutions LLC  
 Decatur Utilities  
 Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce  
 Decatur-Morgan County Tourism  
 DoubleTree by Hilton-Decatur  
 Riverfront  
 Dunn Building Company, LLC  
 Eddie Preuitt Ford, Inc.  
 Enersolv  
 Entrusted Tees  
 Eva Bank  
 Express Employment Professionals  
 Eyster, Key, Tubb, Roth, Middleton & Adams  
 Fite Building Company, Inc.  
 FSI - Fleet Services Inc.  
 G & J Automatic Screw, Inc.  
 Gateway Commercial Brokerage, Inc.  
 GE Appliances, a Haier Company  
 Gobble-Fite Lumber Company, Inc.

Goss Electric, Inc.  
 Great Southern Engineering, Inc.  
 Harris, Caddell and Shanks  
 Hartselle Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Hartselle Utilities  
 HDT Global  
 Hexcel Corporation  
 Horizon Point Consulting, Inc.  
 Hyosung USA, Inc.  
 ICOOL USA, Inc.  
 Indorama Ventures Xylenes & PTA, LLC  
 International Paper - Decatur Container  
 ITW Sexton  
 J & M Signs  
 Jimmy Smith Jewelers  
 Joe Wheeler EMC  
 Kinder Morgan  
 Lakeland Industries, Inc.  
 Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce  
 LiftOne, LLC  
 Limestone Building Group  
 Lynn Layton Chevrolet  
 Lynn Layton Ford  
 M & D Mechanical Contractors, Inc.  
 Magic Steel Sales, LLC  
 MarMac Real Estate  
 Mathews Industries, Inc.  
 Mayer Electric Supply Co., Inc.  
 M.H. Young & Associates, LLC  
 Mobex Global Hartselle  
 Morgan County Commission  
 Mr. Lynn Fowler  
 Mr. Ronald Stokes  
 Mr. Sonny Craig  
 Ms. Trudy Grisham  
 NAFECO  
 National Packaging Company, Inc.  
 NAWDA  
 NEO Industries (Alabama), Inc.  
 Nowlin Development Company, Inc.  
 Nucor Steel Decatur, LLC  
 Nucor Tubular Products Decatur  
 OCI Alabama, LLC  
 Office Interiors by OSCO, LLC  
 Parker Real Estate, LLC  
 Peck Funeral Home  
 Peoples Bank of Alabama  
 Pepsi Cola Bottling Decatur, LLC  
 Petroleum Sales, Inc.  
 Petroleum Services Corporation  
 PJB Media  
 PNC Bank  
 Polyplex USA, LLC  
 Port of Decatur/Parker Towing  
 Premier System Integrators

Pro-Fab Machine of Hartselle, Inc.  
 Progress Bank and Trust  
 Prudent American Technologies, Inc.  
 Pugh Wright McAnally Inc.  
 Red Sage Communications Inc.  
 Regions Bank  
 Renasant Bank  
 Rural Morgan County IDB  
 S&ME  
 Sexton, Incorporated  
 SiP Cigars & Lounge LLC  
 Strategic Systems, Inc.  
 Sue-Jac, Inc.  
 Tennessee Valley Authority  
 Tennessee Valley Training Center  
 Terracon Consultants  
 The Boeing Company  
 The J.M. Smucker Company  
 Thompson Tractor Company, Inc.  
 Toray Composite Materials America, Inc.  
 Toray Fluorofibers (America), Inc.  
 Town of Eva  
 Town of Falkville  
 Town of Priceville  
 Town of Somerville  
 Town of Trinity  
 Tru-Line Mfg.  
 TTL, Inc.  
 Turner Industries Group, LLC  
 United Launch Alliance  
 University of Alabama System  
 Valent Group  
 Valley Budweiser  
 Valley Rubber, LLC  
 Watco Transloading Decatur River Port  
 Watermark Property Group, LLC

**MCEDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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 SONNY CRAIG  
 MISSY EVANS  
 LYNN FOWLER  
 TRUDY GRISHAM  
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 GEORGE KITCHENS  
 GARY LIVINGSTON  
 ARTHUR ORR  
 HARVEY PRIDE, JR.  
 JOHN SEYMOUR  
 BOB SITTASON  
 WALLY TERRY  
 MARY ILA WARD  
 WADE WEAVER

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ROBERT PECK

**DECATUR-MORGAN COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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 GRANT MCKELVEY  
 HARVEY PRIDE, JR.  
 JIMMY RAY SMITH  
 FERRELL VEST

**MCEDA/ PORT AUTHORITY TEAM**

**JEREMY NAILS-**  
 PRESIDENT AND CEO  
**PENNY TOWNSON-**  
 VICE PRESIDENT  
**CINDY VINSON-**  
 RESEARCH ADMINISTRATOR  
**CAROLYN POOVEY-**  
 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR  
**SHARLA STEWART -**  
 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR