



news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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South Central Minnesota Celebrates Minnesota Manufacturers Week with “Tour of Manufacturing”

Mankato, MINN (October 13, 2011) – Manufacturers from throughout the region are opening their doors to the public for the second annual Tour of Manufacturing on Saturday, **October 29** from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The event is put on by the Economic Growth Collaborative of South Central Minnesota and sponsored by Eide Bailly as part of Minnesota Manufacturing Week, which runs October 25 - 29.

With a relaxed, casual format, attendees are able to visit participating manufactures any time throughout the day. Attendees will take tours to see how the manufacturers make their products, get information about the businesses themselves and learn about career opportunities. Manufacturers participating in this year’s event include:

Cambria, Le Sueur
Johnson Outdoors, Mankato
Jones Metal Products, Mankato
Minnesota Elevator, Inc., Mankato
MTU Onsite Energy, Mankato
Nortech Systems, Inc., Mankato
Parker Hannifin, New Ulm
TBEI, Lake Crystal
Thin Film Technology, North Mankato
V-TEK, Inc., Mankato

“The Tour of Manufacturing provides a great opportunity to expose members of the general public, as well as the business community, to this important sector of the regional economy,” said Greater Mankato Growth Vice President Barb Embacher. In Greater Mankato’s Metropolitan Statistical Area (including Blue Earth and Nicollet counties), manufacturing accounts for 17 percent of total payroll, and is 23 percent of total payroll in the nine counties of South Central Minnesota (Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan counties). In Greater Mankato approximately one in every seven employees works in manufacturing and throughout the South Central Minnesota region about one in every five employees work in manufacturing.

The Economic Growth Collaborative of South Central Minnesota includes Greater Mankato Growth; MN Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED); Minnesota State University, Mankato; Region Nine Development Commission; South Central College; South Central Service Cooperative; South Central Workforce Council and V-TEK, Inc.

For more information on the Tour of Manufacturing, including a map of participating manufactures, visit touofmanufacturing.com.

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