

MANUFACTURING



RETAIL



INDUSTRY



Reinvestment & Diversification

ASCENSION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

AEDC

TEN PEOPLE WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THE SOUTH

Mike Eades

Southern Business and Development 2013



WHAT DOES **\$1 BILLION** MEAN FOR ASCENSION PARISH?

For the third calendar year in a row, new and expanding enterprises in Ascension Parish, Louisiana announced above \$1 billion in capital investment during 2013. Nine projects will create approximately 250 new jobs and generate approximately \$11 million in new annual payrolls in the Parish.

Methanex announced the location of a second \$550 million methanol plant that will create 35 new jobs. Honeywell announced two projects totaling \$304 million in investment and 70 new jobs. BASF will construct a \$42.6 million polyurethane blending facility that will create 22 new jobs, the fourth major expansion project that BASF has announced in Ascension Parish since 2009. Crosstex Energy is making a \$16 million upgrade to their Geismar facility that will increase transportation efficiencies and create 5 new jobs.

In addition to successful heavy industrial projects, Hola Nola Foods, LLC announced the opening of a \$10 million tortilla manufacturing facility that will employ 50 people. This is the only tortilla manufacturing facility in Louisiana.

"2013 has been a year of reinvestment and diversification for Ascension Parish. We are proud that our existing industries chose

to invest heavily in our parish. Their investment is a testament to the pro-business atmosphere that we have created in Ascension." stated Mike Eades, Ascension Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) President & CEO.

"2013 has been a year of **reinvestment & diversification** in Ascension Parish"

-Mike Eades

Several industry groups recognized AEDC for economic development excellence in 2013. Atlas Advertising named AEDC a gold medal winner for recording the highest announced per capita investment of any county/parish in the nation in 2012. Southern Business and Development Magazine named Mike Eades one of the Ten People Who Made a Difference in the South and named Ascension Parish one of the Ten No-Brainger Manufacturing Locations in the South.

2013 AEDC PROJECT WINS

METHANEX

\$550 Million in Capital Investments

35 New Jobs

Honeywell

\$304 Million in Capital Investments

70 New Jobs

RUBICON HUNTSMAN

\$78 Million in Capital Investments

17 New Jobs

BASF

\$42.6 Million in Capital Investments

22 New Jobs



\$10 Million in Capital Investments

50 New Jobs

FOUR OTHERS TOTALING

\$20.5 Million in Capital Investments

60 New Jobs



ASCENSION PARISH



NO-BRAINER MANUFACTURING LOCATIONS in the SOUTH

Southern Business and Development 2013



TOM YURA
Senior Vice President



"Thanks to our strong working relationship with organizations such as the Ascension Economic Development Corp, the low cost of natural gas and the region's favorable business climate, BASF has announced four major projects since 2009 totaling more than \$350 million in Ascension Parish and adding 100 new permanent jobs," said Tom Yura, BASF Senior Vice President and Manager of the Geismar, Louisiana site. "We look forward to our continued work with AEDC to help ensure BASF is poised for continued growth."

PROJECT: \$42.6 Million and 22 Jobs



MARK DEARMAN
Operations Manager / General Manager



"Rubicon/Huntsman has enjoyed a long history of success in Ascension Parish and the Geismar community. The cooperation and support received from LED and the Ascension Economic Development Corporation was outstanding throughout the process of securing investment for our Geismar site capacity extension and modernization project. AEDC is a tremendous asset to the local community and a key component for future growth in Ascension Parish."

PROJECT: \$78 Million and 17 Jobs



GUSTAVO PARRA
VP Manufacturing, Excellence & Projects



"We were so pleased to be able to announce the relocation of a second plant to our Geismar site. The team at Ascension Economic Development Corporation has been great to work with, and we are happy to be a part of such a strong community."

PROJECT: \$550 Million and 35 Jobs



KEVIN HOLDEN & ROD OLSON



"Ascension Economic Development Corporation provided assistance in identifying the appropriate incentive programs that would help ensure this new start-up company's success. We are proud to have located Louisiana's first tortilla manufacturing facility in Ascension Parish and look forward to the future with great expectations!"

PROJECT: \$10 Million and 50 Jobs



GOLD MEDAL WINNER

AEDC - HIGHEST PER CAPITA INVESTMENT of any COUNTY or PARISH in the NATION

Atlas Advertising - 2013



HOW DOES \$1 BILLION IMPACT THE ECONOMY OF ASCENSION PARISH?

45
 In-depth Interviews
 with Key Employers

\$77 Million
 in Potential
 Expansion Investment

93%
 of all Firms Interviewed
 Would Consider Ascension
 for Future Expansions



CONSTRUCTION IMPACT:

9,290 Jobs
 (Temporary)

\$632.5 Million
 in Earnings

\$516.1 Million
 Consumer Expenditures from
 Construction Wages



254
 Direct Jobs
 =
574
 TOTAL New Jobs



\$28.7 Million
 in New Annual
 Wages in
 Ascension Parish



\$23.4 Million
 in New Annual
 Consumer
 Expenditures

- Additional Local Sales & Use Tax will be Generated
- Additional Ad Valorem Tax Revenues will be Generated on Improved Land & Inventories
- New Jobs for Ascension Residents

* Source: BR Area Chamber's 2014 Regional Project Assessment System developed by Applied Economics, Inc. utilizing Ascension-specific multipliers.

AEDC
 Ascension Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) was formed for the expressed purposes of diversifying the economy, increasing the tax base and creating quality, permanent jobs by encouraging the expansion of existing enterprises in Ascension Parish, Louisiana, the attraction of new enterprises and to work hand-in-hand with elected and appointed leaders to maintain and improve the business climate in the Parish. AEDC was created by the Ascension Chamber of Commerce, the City of Gonzales and the Parish of Ascension.





AEDC BOARD MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN

William "Bill" Dawson
NPC Services

VICE CHAIRMAN

Dwight Poirrier
Attorney at Law

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Erica Crenshaw
ExecuteNow!

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Don Hanna
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Dolores "Dee" LeJeune
St. Elizabeth Hospital

AEDC EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Councilman Randy Clouatre
Ascension Parish Council

Councilman Kent Schexnaydre
Ascension Parish Council

City of Gonzales Council
Vacant

AEDC STAFF

Mike Eades
President/CEO

Lisa Laws
Project Manager

Misty Taillon
Administrative Assistant

FUNDING PARTNERS



Experience the Ascension Advantage