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DYERSBURG RANKS AMONG TOP TEN MICROPOLITANS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN 2013 RANKINGS

One major new plant announcement and six existing industry expansions combined to lift Dyersburg TN into the top ten micropolitan areas in the U.S. for economic development in 2013, according to results published in the March 2014 issue of *Site Selection*. Although Dyersburg has appeared on the list before, this is the highest ranking the northwest Tennessee city has ever achieved.

“We’re extremely proud of our ranking and our results for 2013,” said Dyersburg/Dyer County board chairman Larry White of White & Associates Insurance. “Our economic development team works very hard to bring in new industry, and to maintain a positive climate here for existing industry as well. The effectiveness of our team, as well as the resilience of our local industries, is reflected in these results, and we’re going to work hard going forward to maintain our efforts to grow our industrial base here in Northwest Tennessee.”

One major new announcement last year which has already been widely reported was the arrival of Dot Foods and the creation of 161 new jobs for this Illinois-based national food distribution company. Another major factor was the expansion of NSK Steering Systems Inc., which added 244 employees to their existing facility in 2013. They now employ over 600 people.

“Dyersburg and Dyer County is a hub for manufacturing in Northwest Tennessee,” said Dyersburg Mayor John Holden. “We have companies like Caterpillar, Firestone, Hexpol, PolyOne, and many others that are parts of large multinational corporations that have chosen Dyersburg for its strategic location and quality workforce. I’m delighted with our 2013 ranking

in *Site Selection*. I'm looking forward to keeping our momentum up this year as we continue to grow our local economy."

Site Selection, published by Conway Data Inc., is the senior publication in the corporate real estate and economic development fields and is the official publication of the Industrial Asset Management Council (IAMC). The magazine's circulation base consists of 45,000 subscribers, most of whom are involved in corporate site selection decisions at the CEO/President/COO level.

"When we're out on the road talking to site selectors and consultants, it doesn't hurt us a bit to point out that we're ranked in the Top Micropolitan list" added Allen Hester, president and CEO of the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber. "These people read *Site Selection*, they're aware of these rankings and they pay attention to things like that when they are assessing communities for their clients. It puts us in a favorable light and calls positive attention to our community."

Other local companies that underwent expansion, either by new hiring or by new capital investment in 2013, included Nordyne, Caterpillar, Hillshire Brands, SR Global and Royal Building Products.

"We've got companies growing all over Dyer County, not just in Dyersburg," noted Dyer County Mayor Richard Hill. "To me, that's a sign that we're doing some things right, because we've got existing industries that continue to invest heavily in their operations here. I think that speaks well for our future."

The Chamber has already begun publicizing the new ranking and will continue to incorporate the 2013 results into its 2014 marketing efforts.

**TOP U.S MICROPOLITANS
NEW AND EXPANDED FACILITIES IN 2013**

Rank	Micropolitan	Total Projects
1	Wooster, OH	27
2	Tupelo, MS	19
3	Cullman, AL	18
4	Findlay, OH	15

5	Morgan City, LA	11
T6	Alexandria, MN	9
T6	Natchez, MS/LA	9
T6	Danville, VA	9
9	Clarksburg, WV	8
T10	Batavia, NY	7
T10	Lumberton, NC	7
T10	Fremont, OH	7
T10	Tiffin, OH	7
T10	Wilmington, OH	7
T10	Dyersburg, TN	7

OTHER RANKED MICROPOLITAN* CITIES OF INTEREST:

T 27	Union City, TN/KY	4
T41	Blytheville, AR	3
T70	Murray, KY	2
T70	Sikeston, MO	2

***Micropolitan cities have between 10,000 and 50,000 population.**