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**Conway Data, Inc.**

# Press Release

## ***Site Selection's 2005 Top Deals and Top Groups***

**Atlanta, May 1, 2006:** *Site Selection* has named its Top Deals in North America and abroad and its Top Groups in North America for 2005.

The Top Deals of 2005 are highlighted by a resurgent high-tech sector and prominent site selections in the automotive and energy sectors, including the first new U.S. oil refinery in 30 years. Three of the 20 Top Deals and Honorable Mentions in North America occurred in Virginia, with Tennessee, Ontario, Louisiana and Arizona garnering two each. Among the 20 global projects highlighted are four in India and three in China.

Also prominent in both lists were projects involving materials like cement, steel and plastics, including the rebuilding by Lafarge of a cement plant and a community in Indonesia where many employees lost their lives in the December 2004 tsunami.

Also included in this year's selection are a handful of projects in a class by themselves, deals "that lie somewhere between the categories of corporate investment, national infrastructure and the future." Among them are an experimental thermonuclear reactor in France, David Murdock's North Carolina Research Campus and a far-reaching energy complex in Qatar, profiled in further detail elsewhere in the issue by Senior Editor John McCurry.

In evaluating the top economic development projects of the year, the editors of *Site Selection* took into account total capital investment; number of jobs created; regional economic impact; value of jobs created; creativity of the deal; role of incentives in the deal; competition for the project to locate elsewhere; and speed to market.

Adam Bruns, managing editor of *Site Selection*, writes that one attribute was universal among all the Top Deals: "The drive to get deals done, so people can move on and get business done."

### **Top Groups List Has Southern Accent**

*Site Selection* magazine has also selected its Top 10 local development groups in North America for 2005. Six of the Top 10 and 13 of the Top 20 (including honorable mentions) hail from the South. Texas leads the way with four honored groups, followed by North Carolina with three and two each from Illinois, Indiana and Alabama.

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"As we evaluated the nominations for the Top Development Groups competition this year, it became clear that the winning entries shared several characteristics," said Ron Starner, director of publications and general manager of *Site Selection* publisher Conway Data. "They had very effective Web sites, strong work-force development efforts and a cohesive approach to regional development. The days of the stand-alone community effort are quickly disappearing. As they say, there is strength in numbers, and it certainly showed this past year."

Local economic development groups were first ranked according to four objective categories: new jobs, new jobs per 10,000 residents, new investment amount and new investment per 10,000 residents. Then they were scrutinized for more subjective attributes — among them innovation, leadership and customer service.

The entire Top Groups and Top Deals articles appear in the May 2006 edition of *Site Selection* and at [www.sitenet.com](http://www.sitenet.com).

*Site Selection* magazine, published by Conway Data Inc., delivers expansion planning information to 44,000 executives of fast-growing firms. Now in its 51st year, *Site Selection* is also available via *Site Selection Online* ([www.siteselection.com](http://www.siteselection.com)). *SiteNet Dispatch*, a weekly e-mail newsletter, goes to more than 22,000 industry professionals. *Site Selection* is the official publication of the Industrial Asset Management Council ([www.iamc.org](http://www.iamc.org)).

Conway Data is an international publishing and association management company headquartered in Atlanta. The firm manages the Industrial Asset Management Council, the Development Hall of Fame and the World Development Federation (WDF), offers consulting services and awards the annual Conway Safe Skies Award.

#### **Top 10 Deals of 2005 in North America**

Arizona Clean Fuels, Yuma, Ariz.  
US\$2.6 billion

EADS, Mobile, Ala.,  
\$600 million

Hemlock Semiconductor, Saginaw County, Mich.  
\$400 million

Intel Corp. Chandler, Arizona  
\$3 billion

Washington Mutual, San Antonio, Texas  
\$170 million

Micron, Manassas, Va.  
\$1.2 billion

Nissan HQ, Franklin, Tenn.  
\$70 million

SeverCorr, Columbus, Miss.  
\$700 million

Shintech, Plaquemines, Iberville Parish, La.  
\$1 billion

Toyota, Woodstock, Ontario  
\$650 million

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**North America Honorable Mention**

AFLAC, Columbus, Ga.  
\$100 million

Altria/Philip Morris, Richmond, Va.  
\$300 million

DaimlerChrysler, Fenton, Mo.,  
\$1 billion

Fidelity Investments, Covington, Ky.  
\$120 million

General Motors, Oshawa, Ingersoll and St.  
Catharines, Ontario  
\$2.1 billion

**Top International Deals 2005**

AMD/SemIndia, India  
\$3 billion

Changan Ford Mazda Engine Co. Ltd., Nanjing, China  
\$374 million

Exxon Mobil, Saudi Aramco and Sinopec, Fujian  
Province, China  
\$3.5 billion

GE Advanced Materials, Cartagena, Spain  
\$771 million

Hankook Tire, Dunaujvaros, Hungary  
\$603 million

**International Honorable Mention**

Alcoa Australia, Pinjarra, Australia  
\$440 million

Allied Aircraft Assistance Worldwide Association,  
Quang Nam, Vietnam  
\$500 million

FedEx, Guangzhou, China  
\$150 million

Hyundai, Tamil Nadu (Chennai), India  
\$600 million

**CLASS BY THEMSELVES**

International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor,  
Cadarache, France  
\$12 billion

Chevron/Shell/Exxon, Western Australia, Gorgon gas  
field development  
\$8.4 billion

Irving Oil/Repsol Canaport LNG, Saint John, New  
Brunswick  
\$750 million

Lenovo, Wake County, N.C.  
\$80 million

Stihl, Virginia Beach, Va.  
\$78.4 million

Steelscape/Grupo IMSA Acero, Shreveport, La.  
\$200 million

DENSO, Maryville, Tenn.  
\$185 million

Intel, Kiryat Gat, Israel  
\$3.5 billion

Hon Hai Precision, Russia  
\$2 billion

Lafarge SA, Aceh, Indonesia  
\$90 million

POSCO, Orissa, India  
\$12 billion

Samsung, Tanjeon, Korea  
\$2.1 billion

IBM Corp., Hyderabad, India

Nissan Motor Co., Sunderland, U.K.  
\$421 million

Orascom Construction Industries, Bazian, Iraq  
\$300 million

PSA Peugeot, Madrid, Spain  
\$364 million

Toyota Motor Corp., Onnaing, France  
\$137 million

Royal Dutch/Shell Group/Qatar Gas, Ras Laffan City,  
Qatar, LNG production facility  
\$7 billion

North Carolina Research Campus, Kannapolis, N.C.  
\$1 billion

Stem Cell Research Institute, San Francisco, Calif.  
\$3 billion

**Top Groups of 2005** (in alphabetical order)

Broomfield Economic Development Corp., Broomfield, Colorado

Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce, Elgin, Illinois

Grant County Economic Growth Council, Marion, Indiana

Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Dallas, Texas

Greater Houston Partnership, Houston, Texas

Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, Mobile, Alabama

Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce, Mooresville, North Carolina

Northern Kentucky Tri-ED, Covington, Kentucky

Piedmont Triad Partnership, Greensboro, North Carolina

World Business Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

**Honorable Mention Groups of 2005**

Albuquerque Economic Development, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Cornerstone Regional Development Partnership, Jacksonville, Florida

Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, Fort Worth, Texas

The Indy Partnership, Indianapolis, Indiana

Opelika Economic Development Department, Opelika, Alabama

Saginaw Future Inc., Saginaw, Michigan

San Antonio Economic Development Foundation, San Antonio, Texas

Tupelo/Lee County Community Development Foundation, Tupelo, Mississippi

Virginia's Gateway Region, Petersburg, Virginia

Wake County Economic Development, Raleigh, North Carolina

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