

P R E S S R E L E A S E

2005 INDUSTRY APPRECIATION RECEPTION
May 13, 2005

The Port of South Louisiana, in conjunction with the Economic Development Departments' of St. Charles, St. John, and St. James parishes, recently hosted area plant managers and representatives at the 12th Annual Industry Appreciation Reception on the grounds of the Globalplex Intermodal Terminal Guest House in Reserve, Louisiana.



More than 80 industry leaders were treated to an afternoon of Cajun cuisine and gifts of appreciation at the event designed to acknowledge their importance to the local economy. Additional distinguished guests included members of the Port of South Louisiana's Commission as well as several elected officials from the port's tri-parish district.

The event was highlighted by comments from Louisiana's Secretary of Economic Development, Michael J. Olivier. In his remarks, Olivier emphasized the significance of the port's 54-mile industrial corridor and that "...attracting new innovative businesses and strengthening the supply chain for existing industries are important elements for the future of economic development in Louisiana."

Incoming Port of South Louisiana Executive Director Joel T. Chaisson, noted that "the manufacturing facilities within the Port's tri-parish district provide significant employment opportunities and this would not be possible without the plant managers who provide the essential leadership required to expand the port's economic base."

In 2004, 3,764 vessels and 55,068 barges called on "America's Largest Tonnage Port", to trans-load 248,745,280 short tons of cargo (4% increase from 2003), at over 60 industries located in the parishes of St. Charles, St. John, and St. James.