

**Regional Manufacturers Address Pressing Topics at 1si's 2015 Metro Manufacturing Alliance
Manufacturing Summit**

NEW ALBANY, IND. (September 15, 2015) – More than 200 guests representing 120 regional companies attended One Southern Indiana's 2015 Metro Manufacturing Alliance (MMA) Manufacturing Summit at Northside Christian Church in New Albany, on Fri., Sept. 11. The event's theme was "Bridging the Power of Our Regional Assets."

The summit featured four panel discussions requested by regional manufacturers: (1) the top 10 issues facing manufacturers; (2) innovative efforts addressing workforce challenges and employer needs; (3) a close look at the region's transportation and infrastructure assets; and (4) regional initiatives concerning economic development.

A list of the subject matter experts who participated in the event follows:

- Beth Avey, executive director, Where Opportunity Knox
- Andy Barber, project manager, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
- Andrew Berger, vice president, Indiana Manufacturers Association
- Steven Braun, commissioner, Indiana Department Workforce Development
- Wendy Dant Chesser, president and CEO, One Southern Indiana
- Chris Gavin, director of engineering, UPS Worldport Operations
- John Goldman, president, Louisville and Indiana Railroad
- Michael Hesketh, president and owner, Superb IPC, and managing partner, Specialty Manufacturing, and Shelbyville, Kentucky, Manufacturers Consortium
- Ron Heustis, project manager, Indiana Department of Transportation
- Greg Higdon, president and CEO, Kentucky Association of Manufacturers
- Deana Epperly Karem, vice president, economic development, Greater Louisville Inc.
- Karen Kurek, national industrial products practice leader/partner, McGladrey LLP
- Ron McKulick, executive director, Region 10 Workforce Board, Inc., WorkOne Southern Indiana
- Dr. Andrew Melin, superintendent, Greater Clark County Schools
- Kent Oyler, president and CEO, Greater Louisville Inc.
- Cindy Read, deputy director, KentuckianaWorks, the Greater Louisville Workforce Development Board
- Scott Stewart, port director, Port of Indiana - Jeffersonville
- Thomas Tyra, director, marketing and air service development, Louisville Regional Airport Authority
- Mary Ellen Wiederwohl, chief of strategic initiatives, Louisville Forward

Scott Olinger, Vice President in Charge – Louisville Region, Harding, Shymanski & Company, the founding sponsor and title event sponsor, said, "The turnout for the summit was incredible with over 200

more

representatives from area manufacturers and related businesses in attendance. Manufacturing continues to be the backbone of the Indiana economy, particularly here in the southern region. It is our pleasure to support these businesses any way we can, and we are proud to be the title event sponsor for the MMA Summit and a founding sponsor of the Metro Manufacturing Alliance.”

Supporting sponsors included McGladrey LLP and Wyatt Tarrant & Combs LLP and Bronze sponsor Stites & Harbison PLLC.

The MMA is a program of One Southern Indiana. Exclusively for manufacturers, the alliance is a unique forum where manufacturing managers meet with their peers, discuss common issues and successes, and listen to timely, expert presentations on topics that apply exclusively to manufacturing.

For more information on becoming a member of the MMA, please contact Kathleen Crowley at kathleenc@1si.org or 812-945-0266.

About One Southern Indiana:

One Southern Indiana (1si) was formed in July of 2006 as the economic development organization and chamber of commerce serving Clark and Floyd counties. 1si’s mission is to provide the connections, resources and services that help businesses innovate and thrive in the Southern Indiana / Louisville metro area.

Since its inception, the organization has evolved to include a three-prong approach to serve its members and investors. Business Resources, as the chamber side of the organization, encompasses membership, signature events and programs which support and encourage business growth; Economic Development works to grow the regional economy through the attraction of new commerce and assists with retention and expansion of existing businesses; Advocacy supports businesses at the government level by engaging in the initiatives to preserve, protect and promote a business friendly environment free of obstacles to growth and development of commerce. For more information on One Southern Indiana: www.1si.org

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Suzanne Ruark, director, marketing and communications, One Southern Indiana, (812) 206-9050; suzanner@1si.org