

# MISSISSIPPI PROGRESS

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## One Step Closer to New Jobs and Better Opportunities

The start of Nissan's construction brings us one step closer to providing new jobs and better opportunities for Mississippians. On Friday, April 6, 2001 Mississippi took that step. The official ceremony to celebrate Nissan's construction took place at the plant site in Canton, Mississippi. The ceremony included an entertaining Taiko drum performance and the unveiling a commemorative stone by Nissan President Carlos Ghosn and Governor Ronnie Musgrove that reads..." stone inscription". The stone will serve as a lasting reminder of the beginning of the partnership Nissan shares with the people of Mississippi.

"Nissan's investment in Mississippi is a great show of faith in the business climate in the resources, in the educational system and in the people of Mississippi," said Governor Musgrove. "For that, we are very proud and thankful." Four thousand direct jobs and more than twenty thousand spin-off jobs in construction, service industries, supplier jobs and contractors will



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result from the construction of Nissan in Mississippi.

More Mississippians than ever will be able to take advantage of

these opportunities. "I believe that by bringing higher paying jobs to our state, we are giving our citizens the opportunity to

enjoy a better quality of life," said the Governor. "That means more men and women building their families, building their homes and building their lives right here in Mississippi."

During the ceremony Carlos Ghosn announced Nissan's intentions to develop a scholarship program that will help many Mississippi students further their education. "Education efforts such as this will help to improve the quality of life in the state, and Nissan is proud to have an active role in promoting education from the start," said Ghosn.

"Education is the cornerstone on which our people build their futures and create a better quality of life for themselves and their families," said Governor Musgrove. "We are pleased that Nissan shares our commitment to education and is demonstrating that by giving Mississippi students an opportunity to further their education."

The first Nissan vehicles assembled at the Canton Nissan plant are scheduled to roll off the assembly line in the summer of 2003.

### Inside this Issue

## King Juan Carlos I Visits Mississippi

March 1, 2001 marked a historically profound occasion for the State of Mississippi. The Majesty of Spain exhibit, one of the most beautiful and exclusive exhibits in the world, premiered a royal collection of Spanish treasures to the people of Mississippi. Not only has this exhibit benefited people across our state through economic development, but it has also crossed national and international boundaries to bring the people of the United States and Spain together in a cultural exchange.

Mississippi is the first and only state to display these historical artifacts, which had never before left the boundaries of Spain.



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Another first for the State of Mississippi took place when the

first reigning monarchs to visit Mississippi, King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia of Spain, came to Mississippi to experience the exhibit first hand. Queen Sofia was very impressed and Mississippi received a royal stamp of approval.

The Majesty of Spain Exhibit will remain in Mississippi until September 3, 2001 and will be viewed by people across the country and around the world. The exhibit is a once in a lifetime experience, placed at the fingertips of Mississippians, to provide the opportunity to show our nation and the world, exactly who we really are and what great things we are capable of.