

*Remarks for the
Nissan Suppliers Press Conference
July 17, 2001*

Thank you, Emil, and let me officially welcome you and the other members of the Nissan team back to Mississippi for this great announcement this morning.

Today marks another tremendous step forward in the partnership between Nissan and Mississippi. With the announcement of these suppliers, we are moving forward with even greater speed toward the fulfillment of the promise this project brings.

With each day, we are seeing the progress being made on the site of the Nissan plant. Dirt is being moved, roads are being laid out, and the first group of employees has gone to Smyrna for training.

And now, the announcement of these suppliers with their investments in buildings and people is taking the progress to the next level.

To each of you here today, on behalf of 2.8 million Mississippians, let me extend to you a very warm welcome to the Magnolia State. We're glad you're here, and we are excited about our future together.

I am especially proud of the Mississippi connection with these suppliers – Charles Doty with Lextron Corporation and Toni Cooley with Systems Consultants Associates.

It is exciting to see these Mississippi-based companies competing with the very best the world has to offer, and to recognize their ability to compete with anyone, anytime, anywhere.

Their partnerships with Visteon and PPG Industries demonstrate the type of innovative thinking and action that creates opportunity and success for Mississippi-based businesses.

Benjamin Franklin once remarked, “well done is better than well said.” Emil, today I am proud to once again say, “well done.”

Nissan has shown itself to be a true partner for Mississippi, and we look forward to the results of the work we will do together.

Thank you.