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## **COOPER LIGHTING REACHES SAFETY MILESTONE**

VICKSBURG, MS – Employees at Cooper Lighting in Vicksburg, MS, recently reached a milestone. They have successfully worked four million man-hours without a lost-time accident. Governor Ronnie Musgrove recently visited the plant to mark the occasion.

“Mississippi’s greatest asset is its people,” said Governor Musgrove. “The good people at Cooper Lighting have proven once again that Mississippi workers are among the best anywhere.”

“A safe work environment is of paramount importance in a successful company,” observed Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., executive director of the Mississippi Development Authority. “Cooper Lighting has set the standard for safety in the workplace.”

Though Cooper Lighting plants are among the safest in the United States, with accident rates at about one-half the national average for the manufacturing sector, Cooper in Vicksburg had one of the poorest safety ratings in the company. New management, new safety procedures and retraining gave the Vicksburg workers the skills they needed to become the safest of all of Cooper’s plants.

“Our 2001 safety performance recognizes our employees’ efforts to make this plant a success,” said Mickey Robertson, Director of Operations. “Manufacturing is important to Mississippi’s economy, and this plant has set the standard for worker safety, environmental protection, product quality and service to our customers.”

Cooper Lighting, a division of Cooper Industries, manufactures fluorescent, incandescent and HID lighting fixtures for indoor and outdoor use. Their products are used worldwide in homes and in commercial applications.

Cooper Lighting in Vicksburg will be providing the lighting for two new auto parts manufacturing plants in Warren County, Yorozu America, Inc., and CalsonicKansei North America, Inc.

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