

Mississippi Development Authority  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE AND PHARMA PAC OFFICIALLY OPENS IN KEMPER COUNTY AND ANNOUNCES NEW JOBS**

DeKalb, Miss. – Today, Pharma Pac, LLC officially opened its doors for business during a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Kemper County Industrial Park in DeKalb, Miss. The opening of the facility in Kemper County makes the operation the first of its kind in Mississippi.

Attending were Governor Ronnie Musgrove, the Kemper County Board of Supervisors, the Chamber of Commerce, and Senator Sampson Jackson. Representing Pharma Pac were Neil Sirkin, President of Pharma Pac, CFO Joe Donovan, Glenn Crawford, Senior Vice President, Tom Otto, Vice President of Technical Services and Juan Picado, Vice President of Production Services.

“The establishment of Pharma Pac in Kemper County is an important investment in the people of DeKalb and the surrounding communities,” commented Governor Ronnie Musgrove. “Pharma Pac is a welcome addition to the industrial base of this county and will be a vital partner in our efforts to continue creating good jobs and a better quality of life for Mississippi’s citizens.”

Pharma Pac, a manufacturer and packager of semi-solid (creams and lotions) over-the-counter pharmaceutical products, will hire approximately 220 employees over the next 2-year period, including 13 microbiologists and chemists. Other jobs will include; Logistis and Warehouse Management, Electronics and Mechanical Maintenance Technicians, Manufacturing and Packaging Specialists, Quality Assurance Technicians and Administrative Support Staff to include Safety, Accounting and Human Resources Management.

Production, including repackaging tablets and capsules from drug manufacturers into various blister cards, began about three weeks ago. With Phase I of renovations and construction completed, Pharma Pac plans to complete Phase 2 by March 2004. That portion will include a 65,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center. An additional 40,000 square foot building will be constructed that will house additional manufacturing for which production contracts have been secured.

“Pharma Pac’s investment in Mississippi is a strong statement about the quality of our workforce and the commitment of both the private and public sectors to make this project a reality,” said Steve Hale, Executive Director of Mississippi Development Authority. “We are pleased to be a partner in this effort in Kemper County and look forward to a long and prosperous relationship with Pharma Pac.”

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