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For Immediate Release
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Growth Opportunities in 09 Forum

Governor's Manufacturing Leadership Series Slated to Kick Off

MANCHESTER – Thriving and innovating in today's economy is the focus of the 2009 Governor's Manufacturing Leadership Series slated to take place on Tuesday, May 19th from 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Southern New Hampshire University's Hospitality Center.

Coordinated by the New Hampshire Division of Economic Development, the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire and the **New Hampshire Manufacturing Extension Partnership** and sponsored by Citizens Bank and Southern New Hampshire University, this event is geared toward helping state manufacturers to grow and succeed in times of economic challenge.

The first panel discussion, "How to Create Growth and Opportunities in 2009," centers around developing and using market intelligence on competitors and customers to grow business. Additionally, panelists will share ideas, strategies and tactics for leveraging business strengths for growth.

"It's crucial that we utilize all of the resources at our disposal to not only weather economic storms, but to recognize the opportunities that exist to grow a business in difficult times," said New Hampshire Division of Economic Development Interim Director Roy Duddy. "By shedding light on financial options and resources for our in-state businesses, we're creating sustainable growth in all of our communities."

Banking and business development specialists will coordinate the "Show me the Money – How to Access Funding for Sustainable Growth" session which will help participants learn how to access funding in both traditional and creative manners.

A report on "The New Generation Manufacturing Study" will be presented by New Hampshire Manufacturing Extension Partnership Director of Operations Zenagui Brahim, while the final panel will showcase "Statewide Resources for Manufacturers."

"Ongoing education is the key to success for manufacturing firms of all sizes," Brahim said. "By being committed to continuous improvement, today's manufacturers can set the pace in terms of business growth and new product development."

The registration fee for the Governor's Manufacturing Leadership Series is \$ 50 per participant; lunch is included. Interested parties can sign up online by visiting nhmep.org and clicking on "Upcoming Events" or by mailing check to NH MEP, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord, NH 03301. For more information, call Zenagui Brahim, at (603) 226-3200 or email zenaguib@nhmep.org.

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