



DAYTON REGION NAMED NUMBER ONE METRO

The Dayton MSA won the 2008 *Site Selection* **#1 Top Metro**. Dayton was the top performer in the tier 2 category comprised of metropolitans with populations from 200,000 to 1 million.

Additionally, Ohio won the 2008 *Site Selection* Governor's Cup, which the 55-year-old Atlanta-based magazine has awarded annually since 1978 to the U.S. state with the most new and expanded corporate facilities. Springfield also was named for its growth and expansion, clinching the #2 spot in tier 3 metros, cities with 50,000 to 200,000 people.

The New Plant database for *Site Selection* Magazine, the oldest publication in real estate and the economic development field, focuses on new *corporate* location projects with significant impact. New facilities and expansions included in the analyses must meet at least one of three criteria -- involve a capital investment of at least US\$1 million, create at least 50 new jobs or add at least 20,000 square feet of new floor area. (The database does not track retail and government projects, or schools and hospitals).

"These awards prove that businesses are looking at Ohio, and that they are finding Ohio a great place to do business," said Jim Leftwich, President and CEO, Dayton Development Coalition.

The recognition is considered a testimony to the teamwork and collaboration that happens at every level of economic development in the Region, and is the foundation for continued job growth and prosperity in the Region. In just one year, Dayton has jumped from tying for the #4 Top Metro slot to the top metro for corporate growth and investment. This in itself is great news for the Region, but it also shows us, there is a bright future as we continue to build on this foundation.

"We work collaboratively for the sake of new investments and to help business prosper. Our location, cost of living and quality of life combine the best aspects of a major metropolitan area with the convenience and charm of a smaller region," said Montgomery County Commissioner Dan Foley. "Our heavy concentration of universities, combined with sensitive Air Force research and private sector high-tech research, plus our highly skilled work force are major attractions for business."

This recognition is also a testimony to the tremendous assets the Region has. From the intellectual capital and research and development at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to our extensive

manufacturing base; from a skilled workforce to unmatched water resources, the Region has a lot to offer and businesses are clearly listening.

“This is a result of many dedicated people and organizations doing great things in the Dayton Region,” said Commissioner Rick Perales, Greene County Commission. “We’ve been working hard for a long time to turn the tide, and it’s encouraging to see measurements and data points proving we’re growing and expanding.”

If the magazine had considered the Dayton Region as we have come to know it (12 counties, 1.7 million citizens), according to the economic data we would have placed number #7 nationwide of metropolitan areas larger than 1 million, ahead of Pittsburgh, Columbus, Charlotte, and Washington DC/Arlington/Alexandria. This is tremendous news for the Dayton Region and a great victory for all regional economic development partners.

“Results such as these are only possible because of a regional team of stakeholders that agree to collaborate and support a coherent focused strategy for growing jobs and prosperity,” said Leftwich. “That has been our focus at the Coalition for the last five years and this award is a leading indicator that the Dayton Region is starting to reap the rewards of years of dedicated and focused attention on our regional strategy for growth.”

For more information on the 2008 Governor’s Cup awards visit, www.siteselection.com.

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Contact: Kristy Rochon at (937) 581-1445 or krochon@daytonregion.com.