



## Alabama Development Office International Trade Mission to Chile and Argentina

**May 31 – June 7, 2008**

The Alabama Development Office and Export Alabama Alliance have scheduled a trade mission to Chile and Argentina. The purpose of this mission is to provide Alabama companies and organizations with an opportunity to assess and explore specific business prospects and to promote Alabama as a world-class business center. Business representatives and government officials will have the chance to establish relationships and facilitate closer commercial ties with this dynamic economy.

### **Why Chile?**

Chile is one of Latin America's most open, stable, and attractive markets. It has sound economic policies, transparent regulatory mechanisms, an educated workforce, and good basic infrastructure. Chile also has an open attitude towards trade and investment, which facilitates economic growth and security.

- The U.S. – Chile Free Trade Agreement started January 1, 2004. Today, 97% of US imports enter duty-free; all remaining tariffs are to be abolished by 2015.
- The U.S. is the top source of Chile's imports; the U.S. is the largest investor in Chile.
- Top Alabama exports in 2006 include: organic chemicals, paper products, industrial machinery, agricultural products, plastics, and metals. Demand commodities include construction technology, power generators, mining technology, telecommunications, environmental services, and medical equipment. Total Alabama exports in 2006: \$31.4 million.

### **Why Argentina?**

The U.S. is Argentina's second largest trading partner after Brazil, and competes with Spain for the top investment spot. Under the 1994 U.S.-Argentina Bilateral Investment Treaty, U.S. investors enjoy national treatment in all sectors except shipbuilding, fishing, nuclear power generation, and uranium production. Since 2002, Argentina has experienced 18 consecutive quarters of economic growth.

- Industrial production has accumulated 64% growth since 2002; industrial and construction activities have grown 7.8% and 22.2% respectively since 2005.
- Top Alabama exports in 2006 include: chemicals, mineral fuel, plastics, industrial machinery, agricultural products, and paper products. Demand commodities include agricultural machinery and technology, building materials and supplies, power generation equipment, information technology, medical equipment, mining technology, plastics, security equipment, and telecommunications services.

### **MISSION INTEREST FORM**

If interested, please contact Beau Lore, 334.353.0299 or James.Lore@ado.alabama.gov, Alabama Development Office, International Trade Division, 401 Adams Avenue, Suite 630, Montgomery, AL 36130, or fax back this form to 334-353-1330.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The Alabama International Trade Center at The University of Alabama is an institutional member of the Alabama Small Business Development Consortium. Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact Karla Jordan, Box 870396, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0396 or 1-800-747-2482.