

洛克福德地区经济发展理事会

ROCKFORD AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

全球关系

Global Relations

中国洛克福德地区全球增长投资顾问理事会

The China-Rockford, Illinois Investment
Consultancy for Global Growth

SUMMER 2009

Please allow me to extend my personal greetings to you. We very much appreciate your interest in the Chicago Rockford Area of the United States and look forward to helping you find rewarding and profitable business opportunities here. Please feel free to contact the China-Rockford, Illinois Investment Consultancy desk of the Rockford Area Economic Development Council.

This September I will be traveling back to China. I would be very happy to meet you, learn about your company and speak more with you about business opportunities in the Rockford Area. Please contact us at info@rockfordil.com so that we can discuss these opportunities and more!

We hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Morrissey Mayor of Rockford

Chinese Success in Rockford Area

Wanxiang Selects Rockford, Illinois for Solar-Panel Plant

One of China's leading companies will build its first American solar-panel manufacturing plant in Rockford, Illinois. Wanxiang America Group, part of the Wanxiang Group Corp. of China, chose Rockford after considering other cities in the U.S.A.

More than 20,516,520 RMB (\$3 Million) in incentives from state and local governments were part of the incentive package. The long-term partnership agreement with Wanxiang includes the State of Illinois, Winnebago County, the City of Rockford and the Chicago Rockford International Airport.

Pin Ni, the President of Wanxiang America Corporation, said, "Wanxiang America appreciates the support from Illinois, especially as the U.S. moves toward energy independence. Our Rockford solar-panel operation and the 60 new jobs are major steps towards that goal."

The groundbreaking for the 0.56 hectares (5,500 square meters) manufacturing plant will take place later this year. About 60 full-time employees will be hired. The operations may expand to 1.50 hectares (15,000 square meters) and 240 employees. In addition, there are plans to build one of the largest solar farms in the United States when Wanxiang leases up to 81 hectares at the Chicago Rockford International Airport.

Wanxiang was founded in the late 1960s and today it is a 28.7 Billion RMB (\$4.2 Billion) company. One of China's largest auto-parts suppliers and a major player in U.S.-China trade, it began manufacturing solar panels in 2005 in China.

As seen in the photo, Consul General Ping Huang made remarks at a press conference at the Chicago Rockford International Airport announcing Wanxiang's decision to build solar panel manufacturing facility in Rockford. Behind him stands Director Ribley, Director of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and Governor Quinn,



Governor of the State of Illinois.

Rockford is Centrally Located



Rockford is near Chicago, home of the Chicago Bulls and O'Hare International Airport, which is consistently voted the best airport in North America by Business Traveler Magazine. Rockford has an excellent location and is part of the third largest multi-modal port in the world with direct access to 4 major highways, 4 important railroads and 2 international airports. We also have an available, skilled workforce with great Midwestern work ethic. We invite you to visit us. You will see how easy we are to work with.

Chinese Auto Delegation Visits Rockford

On April 9th a delegation of 14 Chinese business people representing the automotive industry, consulting firms and investment promotion agencies visited the Rockford Area to investigate opportunities for partnership in the United States. The delegation first toured Ingersoll Production Systems, a local company owned by Dalian Machine Tool Group. They then participated in matchmaking discussions with local companies and met with Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey of the City of Rockford, Chairman Scott Christiansen of Winnebago County and Jeff Polsean of the State of Illinois to discuss the importance of international partnerships.

We look forward to continuing these relationships by visiting our new friends in China and exploring ways we can further cooperate.

Jeff Polsean of the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Mayor Morrissey, Lou Zhouren of Shanghai Welly Automotive Co., Ltd., Chairman Christiansen and others met, as seen in the photo, to discuss desire for cooperation between CEIBS Alumni Automobile Industry Club and Rockford Area automotive supply companies.



Preferential Policies

TIF Districts

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a tool used by the City of Rockford to finance public improvements and assist private development projects within targeted neighborhoods. Rising property values within a targeted neighborhood create new incremental tax revenues, which the city uses to improve conditions within that neighborhood. TIF financing allows a developer or property owner to receive a portion of the increased real estate taxes generated from a rehabilitation or new construction project. These funds can be used for specific expenses including:

- Land acquisition
- Building demolition
- Rehabilitation or repair of existing public or private buildings
- Construction of public works or improvements
- Site preparation and landscaping
- Job retraining programs
- Relocation
- Financing costs, including interest assistance
- Studies, survey and plans
- Professional services such as architectural, engineering, legal, marketing and financial planning

The City of Rockford currently has 23 TIF districts and is actively working to create more.

Fast Facts

The Chicago Rockford International Airport (RFD) is a world class air cargo airport.

In terms of rankings, RFD is the:

- 2nd fastest-growing air cargo airport in the U.S.
- 19th fastest growing cargo airport in the world
- 18th largest cargo airport in the US
- 85th largest in the world for cargo tonnage

RFD is a modern facility complete with:

- 24/7 FAA Air Traffic Control Tower
- Hard-surface runways of 10,000 ft (primary) and 8,200 ft (secondary)
- Cat III/II Instrument Landing System allows landing in zero visibility conditions
- International Arrival Gate
- U.S. Customs Port of Entry
- De-icing fluid retention and processing facility on-site



RFD is cost efficient:

- Free aircraft parking
- Landing fees 55% less expensive than O'Hare
- Centralized purchasing of fuel
- Limited toll road costs for ground transportation including less fuel burnt, uncongested airspace and no stack time, and approximately 15 minutes from commit to land to cut engines
- No congestion on roads
- Same day onsite Centralized Examination Station (CES) service available, 1-2 days faster than Chicago

RFD offers world class services:

- Foreign Trade Zone Benefits (FTZ #176)
- 24/7 customs and federal inspections
- Multiple FBO's means a full spectrum of aviation related services
- USDA inspections

- 6,600 acres in the Global Trade Park
- 3,000+ acres of airport land for development
- 200+ airside acres
- 2000+ acres for industrial and commercial projects

Available Properties

Rock 39 Industrial Park

Located within a 1/2 mile of a four-way interchange visible from Interstate 39, this development offers:

- Real Estate incentives
- 121 hectares available with buildings from 20,000-100,000 square meters
- Near Chicago Rockford International Airport, the UPS air hub and Union Pacific's Intermodal facility
- Available for lease or sale



Chicago Rockford International Air Cargo Center

Located at the Chicago Rockford International Airport

- 6,700 square meter spec building, Phase I of a 37,000 square meter development
- Runway access
- Aircraft Parking to Suit
- Located in Foreign Trade Zone #176



For More Information on Opportunities in the Area...

...please contact Carrie Zethmayr, administrator of China-Rockford, Illinois Investment Consultancy desk, at czethmayr@rockfordil.com or 001-815-987-8118 x100.

Carrie Zethmayr has lived in China, speaks Mandarin and French and has a background in Japanese and Italian. She is a graduate of Beloit College, Beloit Wisconsin, where she majored in languages. As the administrator of the China-Rockford, Illinois Investment Consultancy desk, she focuses on helping Chinese businesses and organizations explore investment opportunities in the Rockford area.



ABOUT THE RAEDC

The primary role of the Rockford Area Economic Development Council is to enhance wealth creation in the Rockford Region by marketing the area and helping employers retain and create quality jobs. The RAEDC works closely with

many partners to serve as a one-stop resource for clients, to improve the competitiveness of the region and to engage the community in the work of economic development.



Rockford
ILLINOIS  USA
ROCKFORD AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Helping Employers Retain & Create Quality Jobs

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