



## L. Michael Ross collects developer of the year award from statewide group

Staff report

L. Michael Ross, president of the Franklin County Area Development Corp., was named the 2009 Developer of the Year by the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association.

The award was made this week at the Pennsylvania Hyatt-Regency in Philadelphia during PEDAs annual conference.

The award recognizes individual achievements and accomplishments and contributions to the economic development profession.

Ross has served as president of the FCADC since its creation in 1986. Prior to that, he spent 8 1/2 years with the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce.

During his tenure with the FCADC, he has helped facilitate more than 635 projects totaling more than \$1.4 billion in capital investment. Under his direction, the FCADC was able to secure more than \$240 million in public funds to support those investments.

The projects have impacted more than 38,000 employment positions throughout the county

through job creation and retention.

In spite of the recession, 2008 was a successful year for FCADC, completing 41 economic development projects totaling more than \$34.1 million of new capital investment. A highlight was the construction of a new 67,000-square-foot facility that will serve as the North American headquarters for Vacon Inc., a Finnish global leader in the manufacture of AC electronic drives.

In addition, FCADC developed a 15,000-square-foot facility for Meyer Distributing Inc., an Indiana-based distributor of truck products, and a 35,000-square-foot building for Tilman Dump Trailers Inc., a manufacturer of utility trailers.

Most recently, Ross worked with Volvo Construction Equipment in support of its \$45 million expansion in Shippensburg and with Norfolk Southern in support of its \$95 million terminal in Greencastle.

Ross is a former board member and president of PEDAs, a current board member and former president of the Northeastern Economic Developers Association, and a former board member of the American Development Council.

Advertisement

The advertisement for Florida Tech University Online features a black and white photograph of an older man with glasses, holding a white pointer stick. He is standing in front of a chalkboard with some faint mathematical symbols like  $Z$ ,  $1=$ , and  $P$ . To the left of the photo is the Florida Tech University Online logo, which consists of a circular emblem with a globe and the text 'Florida Tech UNIVERSITY ONLINE'. Below the logo is a white arrow pointing right, followed by the text 'APPLY TODAY!' and the website 'FloridaTechOnline.com/FD' and phone number '1-888-253-5946'.

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