

Muskogee Technology flies high at Paris Air Show

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jennifer Chism

251-446-4508

jenchism@pcicie.com

Atmore, Ala. — June 2015

Building off the momentum from last year's Farmbough Airshow in England, Muskogee Technology (MT) received the Lean and Innovation Award from GKN Aerospace, MT jetted into action at the 2015 Paris Air Show on June 12-19.

This year, Poarch Band of Creek Indians was a show of force at the air show with Tribal Chair Stephanie A. Bryan, CIEDA President/CEO James T. Martin, Greg Rawls and Mal McGhee attending the event.

"I am honored to have attended the 51st International Paris Air Show, which gave the Tribe a venue in the international business community," Bryan said.

"On behalf of the Tribe, I thank Congressman (Bradley) Byrne who invited me to the event and jointly attended meetings with me to obtain contracts and work for the Tribe and the state. If secured, these contracts will create valuable job opportunities for the people of Alabama. In addition to job creation, the Tribe is diligent in its pursuit of diversifying its business interests.

"I'm pleased to report that, as a result of the contacts made at the Paris Air Show, the Tribe has received numerous invites to be listed on procurement lists. We are hopeful that these endeavors will help us garner contracts, which in turn will create revenue for the Tribe and continue to diversify our portfolio of businesses outside of gaming," Bryan said.

The MT team was a part of the large delegation from Alabama, which included political representatives, economic and industrial development groups, power companies, educational institutions and other businesses wanting to bring aerospace industries to Alabama.

The Paris Air Show is the world's largest business expo. About 120 delegates from Alabama made the trip this year.

Alabama was one of more than 2,303 exhibitors from 48 countries. This year's show was attended by 201,637 from the general public, 149,947 aerospace professionals and 296 delegations from 91 countries.

The highlight of the trip was an invitation from GKN Aerospace North America, President Daniele Cagnatel, to the MT team to have lunch and meet in the company's private chalet. Cagnatel expressed his appreciation of Muskogee Technology's exceeding expectations and continued commitment.

"A world of opportunities lie ahead stemming from this partnership," said Mal McGhee, the company's marketing director.

Additional opportunities are arising with Airbus Group. The MT team met both with Airbus Commercial as well as Airbus Military Division.

"We're only 45 minutes from the new Airbus facilities in Mobile, Ala., and we've already started building relationships, especially with their military division," McGhee said.

"Building these kind of relationships is time consuming and hard work but critical when securing contracts with such influential companies," McGhee said.

Rep. Byrne also acknowledged MT's efforts.

"I appreciated the opportunity to accompany the team from Muskogee Technology to some of their meetings at the Paris Air Show," Rep. Byrne said. "Muskogee is a wonderful success story of a homegrown business that has really seen their operations expand as a result of Alabama's rise in the aviation sector. They are starting to get more involved with making parts and composites for the aviation industry, and they were really making a name for themselves at the air show."

About the Poarch Band of Creek Indians

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is the only federally recognized Indian Tribe in the state of Alabama, operating as a sovereign nation with its own system of government and bylaws. The Tribe operates a variety of economic enterprises, which employ hundreds of area residents. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is an active partner in the state of Alabama, contributing to economic, educational, social and cultural projects benefiting both tribal members and residents of these local communities and neighboring towns.

###