



The North Alabama Region: A Globally Competitive Community

May 23, 2005

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Four Points Sheraton at the Port of Huntsville



Building & Retaining Talent

Education & Workforce Development

Key Issues

- **Ownership from Business**
- **Greater Collaboration/Awareness on Workforce Issues**
- **Soft Skills/Hard Skills Balance**
- **K-12 Curriculum**
- **Mindset Issues – Marketing, Values and Awareness**



Creating & Sustaining Jobs

Business Development

Key Issues

- **Establish Regional Vision**
- **Improve/Expand Trade Education & Networks**
 - **Leverage NAITA–Work w/ Small Business Across Region**
 - **Work Closely with International Visitors Council**
 - **Visa Access**
 - **Involve International Companies Already Located in the Region**
- **Expand Subclusters & Grow New Clusters**
- **Use & Market FTZ More**
- **Provide Industrial Incentives for Globalization**



Community International & Cultural Relations

Civic & Cultural Relationship Development

Key Issues

- Image of Alabama
- Integrating Newcomers to be Effective
- Link Arts Organizations and ISO's Regionally for Marketing Purposes
 - One Day Orientation
 - Database
- Use Arts/International Festivals to Create Diversity
- Education in K-12 to Understand & Celebrate Diversity



Expanding & Strengthening Connections

Infrastructure Development

Key Issues

- **Highways**

- East/West Interstate Connection (Memphis/Atlanta Highway)

- **Pipeline**

- Petroleum Pipeline Fuel

- **Planning**

- Long Term Multi-Modal Regional Planning

- **Waterways**

- Additional River Port Operations & Industrial/Manufacturing Sites

- **Information Highway**

- Broadband Communication Capabilities Throughout the Region