



News Release

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Kansas Logistics Park partners with Tulsa port

The Kansas Logistics Park and the Tulsa Port of Catoosa have partnered to leverage their transportation links to generate mutual economic development and business growth.

Newton and Harvey County officials traveled to Tulsa on July 19 to tour the port and sign a partnership agreement. The document calls for a number of joint initiatives, including:

- A joint marketing campaign to generate new shipping ventures.
- Sharing of data that could be helpful in determining future markets and strategies.
- Market studies pertaining to trade and statistics.
- Sharing of technological products and information.
- Training programs.

The Port of Catoosa is the farthest inland ice-free port in the United States. The port is directly connected to the Kansas Logistics Park by rail, which gives manufacturers access to barge transportation in addition to rail and highways. The partnership will be used as an additional tool for recruiting businesses to the logistics park.

“This partnership goes beyond the benefits that it brings to Rogers and Harvey County or the cities of Tulsa and Newton,” Newton Mayor Ken Hall said. “As we grow together, many communities will benefit from the extended regional boundaries of this partnership. We are excited to partner with the Tulsa Port of Catoosa and look forward to a long-lasting, successful relationship.”

Ed Fariss, chairman of the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority, said the new arrangement would be good for both regions, helping to make logistics easier and lowering shipping costs.

“In our competitive world of international trade, transportation costs play a major part in the challenge of winning market share in international commerce,” Fariss said. “By partnering regionally, we will meet these challenges for our regional manufacturers.”

The Kansas Logistics Park’s most recent tenant, New Millennium Wind Energy, said the partnership with the Port of Catoosa and access to barge transportation were factors in its decision to locate at the logistics park.

The partnership agreement is expected to become even more valuable in the coming years as international trade grows in importance. China’s economy is already the second-largest in the world and is expected to double the U.S. economy by 2050. Asia will become the United States’ primary trading partner.

At the same time, the Panama Canal is scheduled for expansion in 2014, allowing much larger ships to transport foreign goods to the Western Hemisphere. Dick Grenville, director of logistics and business development for the Port of Catoosa, said the changing trade landscape will have a major impact on the Kansas Logistics Park.

“You will have a world market at your fingertips,” he said.

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