

News Release

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Raytheon Aerospace President Wins Madison County Goodwill Award

MADISON, Miss. (January 20, 2000) --

Dan Grafton, president of Raytheon Aerospace of Madison, was announced the recipient of the 1999 Madison County Goodwill Award, presented by the Madison County Development Foundation (MCDF). The award, presented annually since 1997, is given in memory of Brance Beamon, long-time board member of the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA).

“The award recognizes outstanding Madison County business leaders who have encouraged cooperation and progress,” said Joy Foy of MCEDA. “Dan Grafton is a true team player and advocate for Madison County, and deserving of this tribute to the great man who inspired the award, the late Brance Beamon.” The award was presented at the bi-annual dinner meeting of the MCDF board. Past award winners include John Almond, of Allen & Hoshall; Clyde Edwards, of ADCAMP, Inc.; and James Chandler, of BankPlus in Canton.

The privately-funded MCDF was created to support the efforts of MCEDA, which utilizes public funding for economic development efforts. Board members are elected by the members of the organization and work as a cohesive group to provide strategic direction and to develop resources for economic development.

“I deeply appreciate this honor,” said Grafton. “I accept this award on behalf of all who

work to make Madison County a better place to live, work and raise a family. Madison County and Central Mississippi's greatest resource is its people. Raytheon Aerospace has grown and prospered principally because of community support and its outstanding highly motivated employees."

Raytheon Aerospace experienced significant company growth in 1999, winning four large contracts to provide aviation and aerospace technical services for the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Customs and NASA. Furthermore, the 400 Raytheon Aerospace, Madison home office employees recently contributed over \$56,000 in the company's annual United Way drive to benefit local community development and service organizations.

Grafton is active in numerous economic and community development organizations including the MCDF, the United Way, the MetroJackson Chamber of Commerce, the Mississippi Economic Council and the Nature Conservancy. Grafton, his wife, Judy, and daughter, Melanie, reside in Madison.