

E-Center News



Summer 2004

Welcome New Tenant

Artisan Magnetics, Inc. is an Alabama based start-up company located in the Entrepreneurial Center, which designs and manufactures power conversion and energy storage electronic devices utilized by all product developers in the electronic markets. The company founder and CEO, Jack Meacham, has 15 years of experience in the \$6 billion per year magnetics industry as a General manager, Operations director, Chief engineer, Product Development manager and Sales and Marketing manager.

"Jack has the necessary product and industry knowledge to grow a successful business. He has the diverse experience you look for when evaluating the chances for success in a start-up venture" stated Giles McDaniel, Executive Director of the Entrepreneurial Center. "Our decision to locate in the Entrepreneurial Center has proven to be very positive for our business. In many instances you hope to get a portion of the services you pay for in a



Jack Meacham of Artisan Magnetics, Inc.

Venture. The Entrepreneurial Center has gone above the call of duty to provide quality services," said Mr. Meacham. For more information, please visit their web-site at www.artisanmag.com

NOTES FOR START-UPS

Protecting Trade Secrets

by Tara Branscom, attorney at Leclair Ryan Flippin Densmore

The following general tips are for businesses that wish to protect their trade secrets:

As a first step, a business should identify each piece of information that it wishes to protect. Next, a business should require confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements with any party (for example, employees, contractors, and suppliers) that might come into contact with the proprietary information of the business. Also, a business should establish procedures for limiting access to the proprietary information within the business. A business should control the distribution of its proprietary information to only

those with a need to know; provide a method for securing information on the premises, such as a locked cabinet; indicate on confidential documents that the information is proprietary and confidential; limit the copying of proprietary information; and restrict access to the business by visitors and the use of videos and cameras on the premises. A business that takes positive steps to protect its trade secret information will help to prevent those trade secrets from falling into a competitor's hands, and will increase its chances of success in court, should it ever become necessary to sue a third party for misappropriation of its trade secrets.

Recent Events



Pictured with E-Center Director Giles McDaniel is a delegation from Taipei, Taiwan. They toured the Entrepreneurial Center earlier this year as part of a business exchange program with Rotary International.



CD Covenant Distributors completes assembly on marker bases—Giles McDaniel looks at the product

The Chamber of Commerce's Youth Leadership Calhoun County (YLCC) make their annual tour of Entrepreneurial Center



YLCC review materials in the E-Center Conference room



Scott Schwabe from tenant company US Electrode speaks to the YLCC

Please visit the links on this site for more information about the Entrepreneurial Center or contact us at (256) 831-5215.