



Suniva Takes Home Governor's Manufacturer of the Year Award

(GWINNETT- METRO ATLANTA) April 22, 2016 – Governor Nathan Deal announced yesterday that City of Norcross, Gwinnett County based Suniva, Inc. is one of three winners of the 2016 Governor's Manufacturer of the Year Awards.

The announcement came in conjunction with the twenty-second annual Georgia Manufacturing Appreciation Week (MAW). MAW, which was created by the Technical College System of Georgia and the Georgia Department of Economic Development, serves to promote the manufacturing industry in Georgia and highlight the tremendous impact that the industry has on the state's economy.

"The manufacturing arena is one that we take great pride in because it is one of those sustained elements of a state's economy and of a nation's economy," said Gov. Deal. "In fact, we have seen some 511,200 new private sector jobs created in the state of Georgia [since 2011], and of that total, 40,600 of those have been in the manufacturing sector."

Suniva is the leading American manufacturer of high-efficiency PV solar cells and modules. The company's cells can convert more than 20 percent of the sun's energy into electricity, meaning fewer cells are needed to produce the same energy output.

During yesterday's annual luncheon Suniva was recognized as the winner in the Medium Manufacturer (150-500 employees) category. Nominees are judged on a number of criteria including, corporate responsibility, economic impact on Georgia and workforce excellence.

"We are tremendously honored to receive this award," said Matt Card, Executive Vice President of Commercial Operations. "In a marketplace that is heavily served by offshore commodity manufacturing, it's important that the domestic construction industry have a strong manufacturing leader of high-quality, innovative products here at home. Suniva is proud of its Georgia roots, and we are thrilled that our position of leadership here in the United States results not only in technological innovation for our industry – but is allowing us to give back to our state through significant job creation. Renewable Energy is making a meaningful difference in the energy portfolio of the United States. It should be a point of pride to all Georgians that a home-grown manufacturer is a leader in this important field of growth."

Although a first-time winner of the Governor’s Manufacturer of the Year award, Suniva has a history of award-winning success. The company has been recognized by the Export-Import Bank of the United States as the Renewable Energy Exporter of the Year and featured on *The Wall Street Journal’s* List of Top Venture-Backed Clean-Tech Companies; as well as a Top 50 Fastest Growing Company in Atlanta. Suniva is also the recipient of the 2013 Partnership Gwinnett Medium Manufacturer of the Year award.

“Gwinnett County congratulates Suniva on this well-deserved recognition and thanks the company for adding to our strong reputation as a leader in the manufacturing and technology industries,” said Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners Chair Charlotte Nash. “Suniva’s achievement shows what can result when a great firm finds the right environment in which to thrive.”

Suniva’s Global Headquarters is located in the City of Norcross and has experienced significant growth in the community with two large expansions in the past three years. The most recent expansion was announced in September 2015 in partnership with the [Georgia Department of Economic Development](#) and [Gwinnett Chamber Economic Development](#). This announcement represented \$96 million of capital investment to the community and, once fully implemented, will add up to 500 new jobs.

“On behalf of the City of Norcross, I want to congratulate Suniva on this prestigious award,” said Mayor Bucky Johnson, City of Norcross. “We are honored to have them in our community and look forward to their continued growth and we value their contributions to the community.”

“We are honored and proud that Suniva chose Gwinnett following their successful launch from the Advanced Technology Development Center at Georgia Tech in 2008,” said Nick Masino, Senior Vice President for Gwinnett Chamber Economic Development and Partnership Gwinnett. “Suniva was looking for the ideal location to reach the top technology talent in the region and they have found it here.”

For more information about Suniva, Inc., please visit www.suniva.com.

For more information about Georgia’s Manufacturing Appreciation Week, please visit www.georgiamaw.org.

About Gwinnett Chamber Economic Development

Gwinnett Chamber Economic Development globally markets Gwinnett as the premier location in metro Atlanta and the State of Georgia for growing and conducting business. By encouraging investment and trade into the county through relocation and expansion assistance, the organization works with local and regional partners to bring advanced manufacturing, corporate headquarters, health sciences and services, information technology and supply chain management to the community. Home to FORTUNE 500 and 1000 companies, Gwinnett County hosts a wide range of businesses from industry giants, to international companies and homegrown startups. Success lives here- www.gwinnetteconomicdevelopment.com.

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