



For Immediate Release

November 29, 2012

WORLD TRADE CENTER ST. LOUIS, SENATOR BOND, COUNTY EXECUTIVE DOOLEY DEPART ON TRADE MISSION TO CHINA

St. Louis, MO - Over the next week, World Trade Center St. Louis (WTC), former U.S. Senator Kit Bond with Kit Bond Strategies (KBS), and St. Louis County Executive Charlie A. Dooley are leading a trade delegation to China. This high-level trade mission gives the region's institutions unparalleled access to Chinese decision makers, expands opportunities in Asia and fosters job growth in Missouri.

The delegation of business, educational and elected leaders will expand the St. Louis region's growing global footprint and enhance relationships with China. Beginning today in Hangzhou, the financial and industry hub, the WTC, Senator Bond, KBS, and the more than a dozen businesses and two universities will participate in the 5th U.S.-China Transportation Forum, held jointly by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Chinese Ministry of Transport. The previous U.S.-China Transportation forum was hosted in St. Louis and since that time the WTC and area leaders have worked to strengthen ties with transportation heads in both nations. As a result, members of the delegation, including Senator Bond and Burns and McDonnell's Mike Brown, will be making remarks at the forum, which will bring together industry and government representatives.

The delegation's high-profile trip will continue at the Sino-American Logistics Conference, a global conference, hosted in Shanghai, linking government and industry leaders on supply chain and trade issues. The conference will feature a number of Missouri delegation members, including Senator Bond, Midwest China Hub Commission Chairman Dan Mehan, Dr. Handy Williamson from the University of Missouri-Columbia, I-Shen Chen with Nestle-Purina, Jack Kirkland with Washington University, and Richard Zhai with Novus.

Following economic development meetings in Shanghai, the group will next travel to Nanjing, St. Louis' Sister City. Ending in Beijing, the capitol city, the WTC and KBS-led trade mission will connect Missouri businesses and universities with Chinese government, education, and business leaders to ensure Missouri organizations are best equipped to benefit from China's growing economy and population.

Missouri media can track the delegation's progress and developments throughout the course of the trip by following the official WTC Twitter account - @WTCSTL. Also, interested media can contact the WTC and KBS to arrange one-on-one interviews with delegation members at: KJamboretz@slcec.com and shana@kitbond.com

The organizations involved in the WTC-KBS China delegation include:

University of Missouri - Columbia
Washington University in St. Louis
Burns & McDonnell

CSI Leasing
Emerson
F-Stop
Kogent
Missouri Chamber of Commerce
Midwest China Hub Commission
Monsanto
Nestle Purina PetCare Company
PNC Bank
Peabody Energy
Rising Tide, LLC
Sigma Aldrich
Sterotaxis
Veritas Relations

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