

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SECRETARY GUTIERREZ PRESENTS "E" AWARD TO DSC AT WHITE HOUSE
GUTIERREZ VISITS LOUISIANA TO DISCUSS COMPANY'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN EXPORT GROWTH
AND TOUR FACILITY**

WASHINGTON, DC (May 20, 2008)

Today Bob Wetta and Bill Wetta of Louisiana-based Dredging Supply Company, Inc. (DSC) joined President George W. Bush and Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez at the White House to accept the Presidential "E" Award for excellence in exporting. Following the award ceremony, the recipients attended a congratulatory meeting with President Bush in which they were praised for their efforts. The "E"



From left to right: Bob Wetta of DSC, President Bush, Bill Wetta of DSC, and U.S. Rep. Charlie Melancon

Award, created by John F. Kennedy in 1961, is the highest honor the federal government can give to American companies that have made significant contributions to the increase of American exports.



From left to right: Bill Wetta (CEO of DSC), Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez, and Bob Wetta (President of DSC)

The day before the award ceremony, Secretary Gutierrez visited DSC's corporate office to discuss the company's achievements in export growth and tour their manufacturing facility. The Secretary addressed the staff of 120 and commended the company as a whole on their hard work, which led to this prestigious award.

As the voice of business in government, Secretary Gutierrez's top priority is to pry open global markets for U.S. companies so

that they can continue competing within these markets, while ultimately building a stronger American economy. The Secretary promotes American business at home and abroad by traveling regularly to visit



with foreign government and business leaders and to discuss ways to enhance trade and promote U.S. exports.

DSC was recognized for increasing their export sales by 247% from 2003 to 2006. Transforming from a small, family-owned business to an international exporter, DSC's achievements have contributed to national export expansion efforts, as well as created American jobs. Over the three year period, DSC sold several dredges to various countries.

Some international sales include:

- 40' Work Boat to Abu Dhabi in 2006
- 24" x 24" Diesel Shark Dredge to Abu Dhabi in 2006
- 14" x 12" Electric Shark Dredge to Columbia in 2006
- 10" x 8" Custom Diesel Barracuda to Iraq in 2006
- 36" Electric Shark Dredge to Canada in 2006
- 24" x 24" Custom Diesel Shark to Abu Dhabi in 2005
- 20" Shark Class Dredge to Nigeria in 2005
- 8" Amphibian Dredge to Canada in 2005
- 8" Moray Class Dredge to the Philippines in 2004
- 18" x 16" Diesel Shark Dredge and Diesel Booster Unit to Canada in 2004
- 14" x 12" Electric Marlin Dredges to Chile in 2003



Secretary Gutierrez addresses DSC's employees during his visit on May 19, 2008

DSC's export sales continued to rise with a 147% increase from 2006 to 2007 and a 229% increase from 2007 to 2008. With over 50% of all 2008 revenues consisting of exports and the recent launch of a standardized product line, the company anticipates their export sales will escalate well into the future. DSC attributes their success to their powerful team, as well as many others that assisted the company throughout the process. DSC praised the New Orleans Export Assistance Division, particularly Don van de Werken and Cliff Gaston, JP Morgan Chase Bank, especially Bill Richard and Bill Cummins, Charles Sinunu (DSC's Director of International Sales), Juan Rayo (DSC's Representative of South America), and G. A. Dada (DSC's Representative of Africa) for their assistance and support. The need for their product has not yet shown a decline, nor does the company foresee one.

Dredging Supply Company, Inc., the world's leading designer and manufacturer of cutter suction dredges and underwater pump mining dredges, is located in Reserve, Louisiana. For more information about the company and their products and services, please visit them at www.dscdredge.com.

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