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MTEC SmartZone
600 E. Lakeshore Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: (906) 487-7000



MEDIA & PHOTO CONTACT:

Kelly Fosness

Marketing Department, Inc.
600 Shelden Avenue, Third Floor
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: (906) 483-2000
kelly@marketingdepartmentinc.com
www.marketingdepartmentinc.com

ABOUT MTEC SMARTZONE

The mission of MTEC SmartZone is accelerating high-tech business growth to build a prosperous regional economy. More information is available at www.mtecsz.com

ABOUT THE MEDC

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is the State of Michigan's one-stop resource for businesses seeking to grow in Michigan. Whether it's an expansion, a relocation, or even a concern with another agency of state government, the MEDC can help. From site location assistance to job training grants, from help with permits to tax abatements, we're the state's economic development corporation. More information is available at www.themedc.org.

SmartZone is a service mark of Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

MTEC SmartZone recognizes founding board chairman Phil Musser for 14 years of steady economic development and leadership

Kevin Codere fills KEDA appointment

HOUGHTON, Michigan (January 23, 2014) – In December, MTEC SmartZone Board of Directors bid farewell to founding chairman Phil Musser, recognizing him as a pillar of economic development for the Keweenaw.

Musser played a major role in the creation of MTEC SmartZone. In 2001, he helped write the grant that established MTEC SmartZone as Michigan's second SmartZone. He served as Board Chair for 10 years, from the beginning until July 2013. He has been an integral part of the growth and change that occurred over the years.

Ten years later, Musser's vision for a technology incubator and job creation has come to life. To date, MTEC SmartZone has created more than 400 local jobs. "It was pretty clear when we opened MTEC SmartZone that this community had great potential for growing high-tech firms," stated Musser.

According to Houghton City Manager and longtime board member Scott MacInnes, Musser's work on the board helped gain MTEC SmartZone higher earnings than other SmartZone locations throughout the state. "We're the third highest tax capture SmartZone in Michigan," MacInnes said.

For more than 25 years, Musser served as Executive Director of Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance (KEDA), where he spearheaded several significant economic development projects. His latest and largest project included the attraction of DA Glass America, a Poland-based glass treatment company that expects to create over 200 family-sustaining jobs in Houghton County in the next few years.



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Prior to establishing MTEC SmartZone, Musser visited many technology incubators around the country to identify successful operational and job growth strategies for our local technology incubator. MTEC SmartZone Board Chairman and Hancock City Manager Glenn Anderson said, "Phil understands technology trends and local opportunities and he pushed us to be the best that we can be. Most importantly he provided steady, progressive leadership right from the start."

To fill Musser's seat, MTEC SmartZone Board of Directors elected Co-Chair, Kevin Codere, as the new KEDA representative. Codere is President and CEO of Peninsula Copper Industries Inc. (PCI).

MTEC SmartZone CEO Marilyn Clark said, "I'm honored to serve on the KEDA Board with Kevin, and even more honored to have him take a leadership role on MTEC SmartZone Board of Directors. I'm excited about his strong sense of strategy and best business practices."

Codere added, "I look forward to building upon the strong foundation of economic development facilitated by Phil's 25 years of dedicated service."

