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FLORIDA-CHINA ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL MISSION TO CHINA

Official Florida delegation returns from Economic Development Mission to China
(photos available upon request)

Miami, FL – June 25, 2010. The Florida-China Association (FCA) successfully planned, organized and carried out its most recent business development mission to China this past May 26-29. An official statewide delegation of high ranking economic development leaders represented Florida in meetings with senior Chinese government officials and business leaders in Beijing and Shanghai.

“This year’s mission to China was a tremendous success,” said Sibille Pritchard, Chairperson of FCA. “Delegates met with China’s top economic and business leadership, and FCA furthered its goals of promoting business, education, tourism and friendship ties between Florida and China.”

The twenty-member delegation consisted of leadership from diverse economic sectors, with representation from Florida Chamber Foundation, Enterprise Florida, Holland and Knight, Office Depot and more. Highlights of the mission included a visit to the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai and productive meetings with government officials and trade association counterparts.

Additionally, the delegation was greeted in Beijing by United States Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, Frank J. Sanchez, a native Floridian, who was in China with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for trade related meetings at the time the FCA delegation was in Beijing.

In speaking about this year's mission, Dale Brill, China Mission Delegate and President of the Florida Chamber Foundation, commented, "The attention China gets as an attractive, if not explosive, target market for exports is well deserved." He went on to note that, as a participant in the Florida-China Association (FCA) trade mission to Beijing, he saw the potential first hand. "Meetings with government officials and trade association counterparts also provided clarity that making up ground in this important market will be won the old fashioned way: one relationship at a time."

Delegates also had the option to participate in a mission to Korea organized by FCA’s sister organization, the Florida Korea Economic Cooperation Committee (FLOR/KOR), immediately prior to the FCA mission, this past May 23-25. The Korea mission included a joint conference program with the Korea International Trade Association in Seoul and visits to the Korean Investment Trade Agency in Seoul and Gyeonggi Province, Florida’s official sister state in Korea.

Facts and Statistics

According to data collected by FCA, between 2004 and 2008, Florida’s trade with China increased by 35% and bilateral trade between Florida and China increased by almost \$3 billion. China is currently the third largest economy in the world and is projected to surpass Japan as the second largest economy later this year. China enjoys the most rapidly growing economy in Asia. In 2009, the growth rate of China’s economy was 8.2% and its GDP was \$4.758 trillion.

ABOUT [FCA](#)

Florida-China Association, Inc. (“FCA”) is dedicated to promoting business, education, tourism and friendship ties between Florida and China. Founded as a Florida not for profit corporation in 2003, FCA is statewide in scope and based in Miami. Individual, Non-Profit and Corporate membership programs are open to those interested in supporting FCA’s mission. For more information, visit www.fl-china-assoc.org

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