



For Immediate Release

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Please contact La-Shawn Maloy at (202) 942-9469



Joliet Arsenal Development Authority Receives National Award for Base Redevelopment Community of the Year

In August, JADA received a National Award from the Association of Defense Communities. The ADC is a national premier membership organization serving America's defense communities. With 1,200 members nationwide, ADC unites the diverse interests of communities, state governments, the private

sector and the military on issues of base closure and realignment, community military partnerships, defense real estate, mission growth, mission sustainment, military privatization, and base redevelopment. The Award for Base Redevelopment Community of the Year was a proud moment for JADA.

When the federal government opted to transfer the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant for remediation in 1995, the Arsenal was subdivided for both public and private use.

By that time, the former Joliet Arsenal was a rusting array of mostly vacant manufacturing facilities sprawled across 36-square miles of land. The combination of large scale economic and ecosystem restoration benefits accrued at the former Arsenal, providing a model for cleanup and reuse of large old industrial properties across the nation.

In 1996, the Joliet Arsenal Development Authority (JADA) was established for the adaptive reuse and transformation of 3,000 acres to create quality job opportunities and foster economic development in the Will County area.

Since then, JADA has successfully transformed the facility located 40 miles southwest from Chicago into a manufacturing and logistics business park. Redevelopment of the 3,000 acres conveyed to the authority has resulted in Illinois' largest public-private project, attracting more than \$1 billion in private investment and \$100 million in federal, state and local grants.

Overall economic growth of the region continues to increase the value of three of JADA's major accomplishments – CenterPoint Intermodal Center, ProLogis Park

Arsenal, and the Operating Engineers Apprenticeship & Skill Improvement Training Facility.

The development has benefited from a collaborative effort to clean up the property, which was heavily contaminated with chemical waste produced by the manufacture of explosives and the assembly of 4 billion pounds of munitions. A dozen public agencies and the private sector worked together to finish remediating soil and groundwater at the site in 2008, three years ahead of schedule.

As of 2009, new development has generated more than 2,000 permanent jobs. Over 1,800 construction jobs, totaling an approximate \$150 million in wages, have also been beneficial to the local economy. These numbers will continue to grow with the continued redevelopment of the former Joliet Arsenal.

Congratulations to Joliet Arsenal Development Authority, the 2009 Base Redevelopment Community of the Year!