## **U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS**





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## Mississippi Business Named a U.S. Chamber Award Winner

Thomasson Company Recognized as a 2010 Blue Ribbon DREAM BIG Small Business

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Thomasson Company of Philadelphia, Mississippi was chosen as a U.S. Chamber of Commerce Blue Ribbon Small Business Award<sup>®</sup> winner. The award recognizes Thomasson's excellent business practices and its commitment to its employees, customers, and community.

"Winners of the Blue Ribbon Small Business Award exemplify the great success that can be achieved through the American free enterprise system," said U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue. "Thomasson Company is an innovator that will help lead Philadelphia out of this recession, create new jobs, and get our economy moving again."

The Blue Ribbon Small Business Award, sponsored by Sam's Club<sup>®</sup>, is designed to recognize businesses that demonstrate excellent practices in several areas, including strategy, employee development, community involvement, and customer service.

"This award is about more than recognizing financially successful businesses," said Donohue. "It's about honoring those that show a commitment to their employees, sound business practices, and bettering their communities. Thomasson Company has made these commitments, and the Chamber is proud to recognize its contributions."

This year's 75 Blue Ribbon winners were selected from a record number of nationwide applicants and will be honored at America's Small Business Summit 2010, May 17–19, in Washington, D.C. On March 15, seven of the Blue Ribbon businesses will be announced as award finalists, and one will be named the DREAM BIG Small Business of the Year during America's Small Business Summit. The winner will be presented with a \$10,000 cash prize courtesy of Sam's Club.

Blue Ribbon businesses are also eligible for the Community Excellence Award, decided by online public voting, March 1–12. In addition, 25 Free Enterprise Honorees were commended for their strong business practices and contributions to the economy.

To learn more about America's Small Business Summit, visit http://www.uschambersummit.com.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

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