



NEWS RELEASE

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Local Manufacturer Wins Award at Governor's Small Business Forum

Recently, The La Vernia Municipal Development District partnered with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism, regional allies, and economic development agencies to host a Governor's Small Business Forum: Opportunities of the Eagle Ford Shale. Local Manufacturer, Rave Gears, was a recipient of the Governor's Small Business Awards at the event attended by 300 people at La Vernia High School.

"The awards are sponsored by the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism and the Texas Workforce Commission along with the local economic development organization," Jennifer Kolbe, executive director of La Vernia Municipal Development District, said. "Each community that partnered with us to put on the event was given the opportunity to select the award winner from their community. Cuero, Yoakum, Gonzales, Seguin, Stockdale and La Vernia gave awards."

The local economic development board sets the criteria for the award. Some of the criteria the award could be based upon includes: longevity, uniqueness in product(s), innovativeness or community involvement.

"We are excited to have Rave Gears as our business partner and are very proud of their success," Terry Trevino, executive director of Seguin Economic Development Corporation, said. "This unique project has helped further diversify our local economy as well as bring quality jobs and new capital investment into the community."

Rave Gears, LLC, opened its 20,000 square foot headquarters and manufacturing operations in Seguin, Texas, in November 2012. Rave Gears specializes in the manufacturing of precision gears for the aerospace, automobile racing, and recreational vehicle industries. The incentive package offered by the Seguin Economic Development helped to recruit the project which will create more than \$3 million in new capital investment and 60 new jobs over five years.

The Governor's Small Business Forums are designed to educate the small business community on workforce development, employee skills training and growth opportunities. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) presents information on employee training grants and other programs available through TWC. Veterans, business owners, prospective entrepreneurs, community leaders and elected officials are encouraged to attend.

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