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# AIK members in the news

## Boneal

**Boneal Incorporated** in Means recently participated in a strategic forum, *Competing Globally, Growing Regional Economies, Creating Jobs*, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Agency (EDA). Boneal President David Ledford was invited by U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Dr. David Sampson to join him in the strategic panel discussion at Morehead State University on May 18. The forum was one of only 20 such town meetings held nationwide by the EDA.

"It was a pleasure to join in this panel discussion about economic issues in the Commonwealth. Input from private industry is a must for successful economic development and this forum sponsored by Dr. Sampson's group is a good start. I hope these efforts continue," Mr. Ledford said.

The EDA has a mission of creating jobs in economically distressed communities, particularly rural areas. The EDA spearheads the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

Boneal is a prime contractor for government agencies and various private sector companies, providing a single point for technology, procurement, sourcing and manufacturing. Boneal has received numerous awards including AIK's 2002 Kentucky Industry of the Year Award for Mid-Sized Industry.



Ray Zavada, president of **Innovative Productivity Inc.** and the **McConnell Technology and Training Center (MTTC)** in Louisville and secretary of the **AIK Board of Directors**, took over as chairman of the Kentucky Council on Economic Education (KCEE) at its annual board meeting at Hurstbourne Country Club in Louisville June 14.

New board members installed included Florence Huffman of **Clark Publishing** in Lexington, Sharon Kerrick of the **University of Louisville College of Business**, AIK Director David Jean of **Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems** in Bowling Green and Allen Rose of the **Sullivan University** system in Louisville. The outgoing

chairman was Jack Morgan of the **University of Louisville Center on Economic Education**.



**Ford Motor Company** gave a preview of its new 2005 Ford Escape Hybrid, the world's cleanest and most fuel efficient Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV), June 29 in Louisville. News media and VIPs received test drives and local motorists were surprised with free gas at a BP gas station in Jeffersontown. The vehicle, built at Ford's Kansas City,

Missouri, plant, will be available in late summer at prices generally ranging from \$27,000-\$33,000. The attractive, comfortable vehicle drove smoothly and quietly, with plenty of power and performance, comparable to the conventional V-6 Escape model. Stephen Hunter, hybrid vehicle test engineer for Ford, said the Ford Escape Hybrid is the first full hybrid built in North America, combining near-zero emissions with a 75-percent increase in city fuel economy and a combined 50-percent metro-highway fuel economy increase over the conventional Escape. The vehicle averages 400-500 miles per 15-gallon tank fill-up, he noted, with a recent city-

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*David Ledford (left), president of Boneal Incorporated, joined Dr. David Sampson (right), U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, May 18 for a forum at Morehead State University designed to bring greater economic development to distressed communities in Kentucky.*



*Ford Motor Company Hybrid Vehicle Test Engineer Stephen Hunter shows Louisville media the new 2005 Ford Escape Hybrid SUV June 29 at Louisville Slugger Field.*