



MEDIA RELEASE

*Tennessee Department of Labor
& Workforce Development*

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DENSO MANUFACTURING ATHENS TENNESSEE, INC. RECEIVES VOLUNTEER STAR SAFETY AWARD *COMPANY EARNS STAR AWARD FOR THE THIRD TIME*

NASHVILLE – Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner Burns Phillips announced that DENSO Manufacturing Athens Tennessee, Inc. was chosen to receive the Volunteer STAR (Safety Through Accountability and Recognition) award.

"DENSO Manufacturing Athens Tennessee, Inc. has met the evaluation standards required to receive this award by proving their ability to uphold an excellent safety record," said Commissioner Burns Phillips, who presented the Volunteer STAR award today at the company's facility located at 2400 Denso Drive in Athens. "It is evident that DENSO is extremely dedicated to maintaining a safe and healthy workplace."

The Volunteer STAR award is the state's highest honor for workplace safety and health and a nationally recognized program. The Volunteer STAR is patterned after the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) and recognizes the best of the best in the area of safety and health programming and performance.

During the event, Denso Manufacturing Athens Tennessee, Inc. President Ike Yamashita said, "On behalf of our employees, I'm very proud to receive this honor today. At DENSO, our policy is safety and quality first. I believe that this award recognizes our excellent workforce and their continuous commitment to safety."

DENSO Manufacturing Athens Tennessee, Inc. has approximately 1,450 employees engaged in the manufacturing of automotive components - such as oxygen sensors, spark plugs, ignition coils, monolithic carriers, fuel injectors, and fuel rails - for the automotive industry. This is the site's third time to receive the Volunteer STAR award. There are currently 40 Volunteer STAR sites in Tennessee.

A certificate of recognition is awarded to the STAR recipient, as is a flag that can be flown at the site. The company is also permitted to use the Volunteer STAR logo on its correspondence and company documents.

The standard for participation in the STAR program is the confirmation of a company's safety and health program, which helps reduce accidents and injuries. The program also allows employers to be removed from programmed compliance inspection lists for a period of three years.

For more information on the Volunteer STAR award program and other TOSHA award programs contact the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration at (800) 325-9901.

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