



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2009

Contact:

Jenn Wade
AkinsCrisp Public Strategies
615.329.9525
jwade@akinscrisp.com

**National and Regional Technology Leaders to Convene at
Tennessee Valley Corridor Partnership Event in Murfreesboro, Tenn.
*Energy and the Environment, Workforce Development, and Innovation and
Entrepreneurship to be Focus of November 22-23 Event***

Murfreesboro, Tenn. – Congressman Bart Gordon (D-TN) will join other members of the Tennessee Valley Corridor’s (TVC) congressional delegation including Senator Lamar Alexander, TVC founding Congressman Zach Wamp (R-TN), Congressman Lincoln Davis (D-TN), as well as key national leaders and presenters from Microsoft, IBM and the federal government and many others, at a special economic and technology development event on November 22-23 at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The Tennessee Valley Corridor event is being organized in conjunction with Mind2Marketplace (M2M), a Middle Tennessee technology consortium focused on new job creation. Major sessions during the November event will focus on energy and the environment, workforce development, and innovation and entrepreneurship in an effort to share information, build strategic partnerships and explore new collaborations throughout the region.

Registration for the event is open to the public and all science, technology, economic development, education and business leaders are encouraged to attend. For more information on how to register for the event, visit www.tennvalleycorridor.org.

“It’s exciting to have such a unique partnership event here in Middle Tennessee,” said Congressman Bart Gordon. “Tennessee’s Sixth Congressional District officially joined the Tennessee Valley Corridor footprint last year, and we now have the opportunity to bring regional and national leaders here to Middle Tennessee to showcase the good work being done here in our region. We look forward to sharing information and finding ways to continue to advance the Tennessee Valley Corridor as one of the leading science and technology regions in the nation. That will help us continue to bring good-paying jobs to the area.”

The *Tennessee Valley Corridor* (TVC) is a multi-state regional economic development organization dedicated to promoting the *Tennessee Valley Corridor* as one of the nation's premier science and technology centers, and to leveraging the Valley's abundant research and technology assets and institutions for maximum regional economic development and new job creation.

“Since 1995, the Tennessee Valley Corridor has hosted 21 regional and national economic development Summits throughout the Tennessee Valley and in Washington, D.C.,” said Doug Fisher, Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Corridor Board of Directors. “We are excited to travel to Middle Tennessee and have Congressman Gordon join us for our 22nd gathering in this series of important events to create the jobs of the future and to explore new ways to help solve some of our nation’s biggest challenges.”

Building on such regional assets as NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, the U.S. Army's Redstone Arsenal, the U.S. Air Force's Arnold Engineering Development Center, the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Y-12 National Security Complex, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Climatic Data Center in Western North Carolina, the National Transportation Research Center, the Center for Rural Development, the National Safe Skies Alliance, several world-class research universities and dozens of corporate leaders in science and technology, the Tennessee Valley Corridor organization has helped showcase the region's superior quality of life and the people, business, natural and scientific resources needed for high-tech research, development, business and investment in the 21st Century.

Mind2Marketplace (M2M) is an organization dedicated to bringing the brightest and best ideas in middle Tennessee to reality. M2M strategically links people and organizations to bring innovation and technology to the marketplace. M2M covers the 40-county area in middle Tennessee surrounding Nashville, TN, with a diagonal connection to partners at the Oak Ridge National Laboratories in Oak Ridge, TN, and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL. Primary areas of focus include: Promoting Entrepreneurship Development; Supporting Technology and Innovation; and Encouraging the Growth of a Talented Workforce.

For complete information on the Tennessee Valley Corridor and the TVC Fall Partnership Event including information on how to register, please visit www.tennvalleycorridor.org.

###