



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

For More Information, Contact:
Harold Zinn, Senior Vice President
Corporate Communications
314-754-8452
hzinn@missourienterprise.org

**JAHABOW INDUSTRIES, INC. SELECTS MISSOURI ENTERPRISE
TO PROVIDE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Owensville, Missouri, April, 06, 2006 – Jahabow Industries, Inc. a leading national designer and manufacturer of display showcases, freestanding fixtures, kiosks, and showcase lighting systems, assisted by Missouri Enterprise, has begun an extensive continuous improvement program, according to Ron Miller, vice president of operations.

The program includes both staff training and hands-on implementation support and is intended to help the company incorporate industry “best practices” and state-of-the-art techniques to remain competitive by enhancing productivity and responding to customer needs, Miller said.

Jahabow Industries was founded more than 20 years ago. Its customers are major department stores, national retail chains, leading mass merchandisers, drug chains, wholesale clubs and specialty retailers, as well as a variety of public and private institutions throughout the world, including those in Mexico, Canada, South and Central America and the Caribbean Basin.

The company’s products are sold through a strong national and international dealer network.

The first phase of the program will introduce and train Jahabow Industries’ management and key employees in “Lean Enterprise” principles. This introduction will demonstrate how “Lean Enterprise” tools reduce processing time, increase productivity and product quality and make better use of plant space by improving organization and material flow through the facility.

-more-

Following the introductory training, Missouri Enterprise will assist the company's "Lean" team and management in developing current and future state value stream maps.

Value stream mapping is a "Lean Enterprise" tool used that creates a graphical representation of all the actions, both value added and non-value added that are part of the company's operation. A future state map is a guide to the things that can be done to improve how the company operates.

Based on the value stream maps created, Missouri Enterprise will help Jahabow Industries' "Lean" team and management examine and prioritize continuous improvement opportunities; and will help the company conduct a series of very intensive and highly focused continuous improvement efforts, called Kaizen Events, to eliminate non-value added activities.

Missouri Enterprise is a not-for-profit corporation that provides business and technical assistance to help Missouri companies succeed. It manages the Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Missouri, an Advanced Manufacturing Training Program (funded by a U.S. Department of Labor grant) a value added agriculture program and one of the state's Innovation Centers.

Missouri Enterprise Project Manager Mark Kelchner will lead the Missouri Enterprise team assisting Jahabow Industries, Inc.