



# opportunityreturns

Creating more jobs for today and tomorrow

~~OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR~~

~~Rod R. Blagojevich — Governor~~

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE

"Even though we are making a lot of tough budget decisions right now, the investments to support economic development must continue. As elected officials, we must do all that we can to support local businesses and give them the tools to grow and create opportunity," said State Representative Daniel Beiser (D-Alton).

Gateway Packaging Company provides flexible packaging for the food, industrial product and pet food industry, and has been doing business in Illinois for 25 years. The company has grown into a full service packaging company that offers performance packaging, including lidding, labels, rollstock or bags, as well as in-house printing and bag design.

"Through this partnership with Gateway Packaging, we're using a wide range of economic development tools that we have to help this company stay strong and grow. Gov. Blagojevich will continue working with countless other companies to stimulate the economy and create jobs throughout the region and state," DCEO Director Jack Lavin said.

Gov. Blagojevich's *Opportunity Returns* regional economic development strategy is the most aggressive, comprehensive approach to creating jobs in Illinois' history. Since a one-size-fits-all approach to economic development just doesn't work, the Governor has divided the state into 10 regions – each with a regional team that is empowered and expected to rapidly respond to opportunities and challenges. *Opportunity Returns* is about tangible, specific actions to make each region more accessible, more marketable, more entrepreneurial and more attractive to businesses. It is about upgrading the skills of the local workforce, increasing the access to capital, opening new markets, improving infrastructure, and creating and retaining jobs. *Opportunity Returns* is about successfully partnering with companies and communities, both large and small, to help all of Illinois reach its economic potential.

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