



**Work Ready Regions – Round 4 Informative Conference Call
July 15, 2010
Question and Answer Period**

Q: The Georgia Department of Economic Development does not have health care IT listed as a strategic industry. Is it still an appropriate industry for a Work Ready Region?

A: We would recommend broadening the industry to something such as “advanced communications” because health care IT is about interfacing between the worker and the machine, or the worker and the customer or client.

Q: Can a county be in multiple regions?

A: Yes. For example, the Augusta area is involved as a Round 2 Work Ready Region for energy as related to Plant Vogel. They are also involved as a Round 3 Work Ready Region for biosciences. There are two leadership teams, individual to each region, but these teams work together and collaborate. There is also an effort made to ensure funds are appropriately distributed and that no effort is being double-funded.

Q: We were a part of Round 2 and had 15 counties involved. How does that relate to this round of Work Ready Regions?

A: You will need to identify a new, unique strategic industry that is different from your Round 2 region. It could be something completely different from your Round 2 region, or it could be a complementary industry.

Q: Is tourism considered a strategic industry?

A: If it is listed with GDEC, then yes. It can be considered a strategic industry.

Q: Is global trade considered a strategic industry?

A: It could be, but it could also fall into logistics. Our region industries often fall within broad categories, but can take many different directions. For example, the bioscience region in the Metro Atlanta area is very different from the bioscience region in south Georgia. It will be up to you to make your case for why global trade should be considered separately from logistics.

Q: Can we clarify the date that the proposal is due back to the Governor’s Office of Workforce Development? Also, what is your preference for submission type?

A: Your proposal is due on Aug. 13 by 5 p.m. The RFP stipulates that you must submit two hard copies as well as an electronic copy on CD. We use the CD to provide all the graders of the applications an electronic copy, and it’s easier to have a CD rather than scan all the applications in.

Q: Can a region submit more than one proposal?

A: Yes. A region can submit proposals for as many strategic industries as they feel they are eligible. But only one strategic industry will be selected per region.