



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 11, 2010

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MEDIA ADVISORY:
**Jan. 20 San Antonio Rally and Idle Equipment Caravan Will Highlight
Local Impact of Federal Highway Bill Delays**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Construction equipment industry leaders and other transportation advocates will rally at San Antonio's Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center at noon on Jan. 20 to focus public attention on the economic depression in the equipment industry and the need for Congress to swiftly enact a new multi-year highway bill and other recovery legislation.

The rally is the fourth in a national grassroots campaign (called *Start Us Up USA!*) by Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) and the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), the nation's two leading construction equipment industry trade groups. Following the rally, a caravan of trucks carrying large pieces of construction equipment draped with banners and idled by the industry depression will make its way through the streets of downtown San Antonio.

The event, which will feature San Antonio business leaders and a well-known elected official, will put a local face on two important national stories: the economic crisis facing construction equipment distributors and manufacturers, and the nexus between infrastructure investment and economic growth in San Antonio and beyond. Since 2006, Texas has lost \$11.37 billion in economic activity because of the equipment industry downturn, the biggest loss of any state. Texas is second only to California in equipment industry-related job losses, with more than 53,000 layoffs since the start of the recession.

More information about the AED-AEM *Start Us Up USA!* campaign (including video highlights of rallies and idle equipment caravans in Las Vegas, Chicago, and Washington, D.C., and the results of the IHS Global Insight study on industry economic conditions) is available at <http://www.StartUsUpUSA.com>. The Jan. 20 event is being held in conjunction with AED's 2010 Summit Convention and CONDEX trade show, which are taking place in San Antonio Jan. 20 to Jan. 22.

Who: Peter M. Holt, CEO, HOLT CAT (San Antonio)
Bennett Clossner, 2009 AED chairman; president & CEO, Clossner Equipment (San Antonio)
Dean Word, III, partner, Dean Word Company (New Braunfels)
Craig Paylor, president, JLG Industries (Hagerstown, Maryland)
The Honorable Jeff Wentworth, Texas state senator, District 25
Toby Mack, president and CEO, Associated Equipment Distributors
Dennis Slater, president, Association of Equipment Manufacturers

What: *Start Us Up USA!* Rally and Idle Equipment Caravan through the streets of San Antonio

When: Rally begins 12:00pm on Jan. 20, 2010. Caravan will pass rally site at 12:30pm.

Where: Rally will take place on the plaza on the northern side of Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center (on East Market Street).

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