



Midwestern Governors Association

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***MGA to Highlight Strengths of Midwest at the 2010 BIO Convention,  
Announces Launch of Redesigned Website***

Washington, D.C. – The Midwestern Governors Association will open its convention booth today at the 2010 BIO International Conference, which is being held May 4-6 in Chicago. The MGA will be positioned to welcome visitors to the Midwestern cluster of state exhibitors.

A strong Midwestern presence at BIO will emphasize the region's and states' commitment to attracting top-rate companies to the Midwest.

A report released earlier by Battelle, an independent research organization, confirms strong regional growth in the bioscience industry with respect to jobs and businesses. Since 2001, employment in the medical device and equipment sector increased in the MGA region at a rate five times the national average. Additionally, employment in the agricultural feedstock and chemicals industries increased -at a rate of almost six times the national average.

“Our natural assets, global corporations and intellectual capital make the MGA region the ‘biobasket’ of the nation,” said Jesse Heier, Washington director for the MGA. “I encourage the attendees of the 2010 BIO convention to visit the MGA and Midwestern states’ booths to learn more about our regional strengths and opportunities.”

The MGA will be using the BIO event as an opportunity to unveil its new website, aimed at expanding the recognition of both the region and the activities of its governors. In addition to a more streamlined design, the website will feature a calendar of events that will have a regional scope and interest.

For more information on BIO 2010 visit <http://convention.bio.org/default.aspx>. To learn more about the MGA or to post information to the Midwestern calendar, please visit our website at [www.midwesterngovernors.org](http://www.midwesterngovernors.org).

*The purpose of the Midwestern Governors Association is to foster regional development, attain greater efficiency in state administration, facilitate interstate cooperation, improve intergovernmental relationships, and provide a medium for the exchange of views and experiences on issues of general importance to the people of the Midwestern states.*

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