



## Michigan companies participate in White House forum

JANUARY 12, 2012

*in* ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION, EVENTS, GREAT COMPANIES

Michigan business leaders who have brought jobs back or decided to make significant investments in the United States participated in a forum hosted by President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden in Washington, D.C. on January 11.

The forum, called “Insourcing American Jobs,” brought together business owners who shifted work back to the United States and are investing in growing their businesses here. The forum focused on why insourcing is needed to help create jobs and attract investing dollars from companies looking to establish or grow U.S. subsidiaries.

Participating in the forum were:

**Detroit-based GalaxE Solutions** – Established in 1990 and specializing in custom software application development for Fortune 50 corporations, [GalaxE Solutions](#) created the “Outsource to Detroit” program that is a model for repatriating jobs back to the United States. GalaxE Solutions opened operations in Detroit in 2010 and, with 150 professionals on board, is well on its way to its goal of hiring 500 IT specialists. In addition, the firm working with the area’s universities and community colleges to train and retrain professionals for the future. GalaxE was also featured in the January 2012 issue of [Site Selection](#) magazine for its commitment to hiring IT workers in Detroit.

**AGS Automotive Systems** – [AGS](#) worked with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and other local Michigan agencies to make an investment in excess of \$20 million to add new manufacturing capabilities for bumper impact assemblies in Michigan. The new business will likely represent in excess of \$100 million in annual sales over the next five years and will enable AGS to retain approximately 50 jobs and create over 100 new jobs in Michigan.

Michigan entrepreneur David Ollila, CEO and founder of **Snapperhead Inventions, LLC**, makers of the [Marquette Backcountry Ski](#), was also in attendance at the forum. Ollila was able to launch the company in less than one year, with minimal capital investment, while still being able to keep manufacturing not only within the United States, but right here Michigan.

“My message to Washington is that an individual player can participate in U.S. manufacturing, earn a family-sustaining income and bring innovative products to the market with lower overall risk and greater reward than can be accomplished overseas,” Ollila said. “It’s my hope that this forum leads to increased dialogue and action that will support average Americans who are willing to wake up every morning, take charge of their lives and produce something of value.”

<http://blog.michiganadvantage.org/great-companies/michigan-companies-participate-in-white-house-forum/>