



2011 Manufacturer of the Year: **Berg Spiral Pipe**

Pictured outside Berg Spiral Pipe's manufacturing facility are Mobile Plant Manager Uwe Arenz (left) along with key staff. Berg was recognized as the Mobile Area Chamber's Manufacturer of the Year.

There's been a lot of talk from industry advocates in support of natural gas – it's clean, plentiful and widely used in heating, cooking and generating electricity. There's only one way to transport it, and Mobile's Berg Spiral Pipe is capitalizing on the nation's demand for this resource by manufacturing large diameter spirally welded pipe in Mobile.

Berg received the Mobile Area Chamber's Manufacturer of the Year award for its success and investment in the community.

Just three years ago, the company invested \$96 million to locate an 86-acre manufacturing facility at the former

International Paper site capable of producing 200,000 tons of spirally welded pipe, ranging from 24 to 56 inches in diameter, each year.

With this innovative process and quality pipe, Berg is helping move large volumes of natural gas long distances to growing population centers and industries that need it.

Its success is evidenced by the fact that the company's employee base has doubled from its initial projection to approximately 200 highly skilled, highly paid workers.

Mobile Plant Manager Uwe Arenz credits AIDT, the state's employee training and recruiting program, with much of

Berg's success, saying AIDT "gave us support and introduced the trainees to what was expected of them in terms of job safety and quality."

The facility has earned a solid reputation for quality assurance and testing. Using Total Productive Equipment Management and Overall Equipment Efficiency processes ensures Berg's equipment produces at maximum efficiency without sacrificing quality, explains Arenz. And this, he says, is a key indicator that Berg Spiral Pipe will continue to compete in a rapidly growing industry.

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Left to right: Joel Daves, South Alabama Area President; David Cooper, Board of Directors Regions Financial Corporation; John Turner, Central Region President; Bill Seifert, Chairman of South Alabama Advisory Board

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