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### **BDB CEO off to Brazil to attract new businesses to County**

West Palm Beach, FLA - Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO of the Business Development Board, is joining Governor Rick Scott tomorrow in Sao Paulo, Brazil for the Team Florida Mission and Business Expo. Recognizing the tremendous potential to expand trade and investment ties in Palm Beach County, the BDB will have the opportunity to meet and interact with top level corporate and government leaders, as well as market the area to a large audience of Brazilian companies interested in doing business in Florida.

"The BDB has been courting Brazilian companies with ties to South Florida for some time," said Smallridge. "Palm Beach County's presence at the Mission and Business Expo will help bolster our existing relationships there and will better position us to score deals for the County."

Brazil, the seventh largest economy in the world, is Florida's number-one trading partner with exports from Florida surpassing \$13.7 billion in 2010. Furthermore, the Brazilian economy is expected to be one of the fastest growing in the world in the coming decade.

#### **About the BDB**

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County is the official public/private economic development organization for Palm Beach County and Enterprise Florida. Founded in 1982 as a not-for-profit corporation, our primary purpose is to attract and retain new industry, business investment, high quality jobs and workforce development through corporate relocations, expansions and international trade. During the past five years, the BDB has assisted companies that have created more than 7,700 direct jobs with average salaries greater than \$55,400, resulting in more than \$355 million in capital investment to Palm Beach County and an economic impact that exceeds \$1.8 billion. Additional information can be found at the BDB's Web site, [BDB.org](http://BDB.org).

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