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NEWS

FROM:

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## SABETHA MANUPACTURER CHOSEN TO SERVE ON TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced that LaVon Wenger, President of Wenger Manufacturing, Inc., Sabetha, has been appointed to serve as a member of the Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Capital Goods for Trade Policy Matters. The committee will provide key advice to Secretary of Commerce Barbara Franklin and U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills on multi-lateral and bi-lateral trade policies and negotiations.

The committee concentrates on tariff reductions, rules of origin and government procurement, in addition to focusing on the Uruguay Rounds and the North American Free Trade Agreement discussions.

"In recommending LaVon, I was convinced that we stand to benefit significantly from the experience and savvy of successful business people and am pleased that he has agreed to sit on this key trade committee. He will provide valuable insight on private industry practices and trade issues. LaVon will bring to the panel his worldwide experiences and expertise on complex trade matters. He knows the issues well," said Dole.

Wenger will serve with presidents and chief operating officers of other national companies and trade associations, including Litton Industries, Caterpillar, the American Meat Institute and General Electric.

Wenger Manufacturing, Inc., Sabetha, manufactures, markets and services food and grain processing equipment to a worldwide market. The Wenger Export Division, Wenger International, has offices in Kansas City with branches in Belgium and Taiwan. Over 50% of the company's production is exported.

The Sabetha-based company has been honored as Kansas Exporter of the Year, and this year received the Kansas Engineering Society's "Governor's New Product Award" for its twin screw extruder. This extruder is used by commercial food and grain processors to cook and shape cereal grains and other food blends and mixtures for value added foodstuffs, cereals, pastas, pet foods, and other specialized animal feeds.

LaVon attended Kansas State University. He is past president and serves on the Board of Directors of the International Trade Institute. He recently completed two terms as mayor of Sabetha, is past president of the Sabetha Industrial Development Corporation and currently serves on the local hospital board.

Lavon, and his wife, Erma, are lifelong residents of Sabetha. They have two sons and one daughter.