



Combustion Associates, Inc.

Public Relations Department

555 Monica Circle

Corona, California, 92880 USA

Tel: 951 272 6999 | Fax: 951 272 8066

Email: sales@cai3.com | Web: www.cai3.com



December 7, 2015

Corona, CA

For Immediate Release

*CAI's Benin Success Story Lauded as a Benchmark
at MCC's Procurement and Investment Forum in Los Angeles*

LOS ANGELES, CA: Kusum Kavia, president of Corona, California based Combustion Associates, Inc., (CAI) shared the phenomenal success story of its 80MW power plant in the Republic of Benin, Sub-Saharan Africa, at an event for California based energy-equipment suppliers, project developers, operators, and investors interested in doing business in African markets, Friday, December 4, in Los Angeles.

The event titled "**Investment Opportunities in Benin and Ghana,**" was hosted by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) with its partners Power Africa, U.S Department of Commerce, and the Corporate Council on Africa. MCC is an innovative and independent U.S. foreign-aid agency leading the fight against global poverty through smart U.S. foreign assistance focusing on good policies, country ownership, and results.

In this forum, where participants discussed opportunities to expand into the African sub-continent with local procurement officials and leading private sector companies from Benin and Ghana seeking U.S. partners, Ms. Kavia spoke of CAI's experience of designing, fabricating and installing an 80MW gas turbine power plant in Benin. CAI's power plant was the first of its kind in western Sub-Saharan Africa by a California based engineering and construction company. Ms. Kavia stated "the construction of our power plant boosted the economy of

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Benin and USA by creating jobs and educating the work force. This is what we like to see, a true win-win with our customers, employees and suppliers.”

CAI built the project ground up, full turn-key, handling everything from engineering to procurement, manufacturing, construction, logistics, and finally start-up, commissioning and training. Today, CAI’s power project has brought electricity to thousands of homes and businesses in Benin and created high paying jobs for its people. President Obama singled CAI as a model of U.S. small business’ entrepreneurship and significant impact in an emerging market, during his speech at the U.S. Africa Leaders Summit in August 2014.



CAI President Kusum Kavia (center) with Republic of Benin officials -- Gabriel Degbegni, MCC Benin Reforms Follow-up Manager, left, and Samuel Batcho, MCC Benin National Coordinator.

ABOUT CAI:

Located in Corona, California, CAI is a manufacturer and systems integrator of Modular Power Generation Systems ranging in size from 1 MW to 15 MW. CAI also specializes in Renewable “Green” Energy projects such as Waste to Energy and Landfill Gas to Energy Applications.

Over its 25 years history, CAI has won numerous Federal and State awards. Among them are:

- Recipient of 2011 Presidential "E" Award for Excellence in Exporting
Presented by: U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.
- Recipient of 2009 Exporter of the Year Award for Sub-Saharan Africa
Presented by: U.S. Export Import Bank
- Recipient of 2008 National Minority Person of the Year Award
Presented by: U.S. Small Business Administration
- Recipient of 2007 Vendor Excellence Award
Presented by: Defense Logistics Agency, U.S. Department of Defense
- Recipient of 2006 National, Regional and District Exporter of the Year Awards
Presented by: U.S. Dept. of Commerce and U.S. Small Business Administration
- Recipient of 2005 Minority Manufacturer of the Year Award
Presented by: Inland Empire MBDC, U.S. Department of Commerce

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