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Ms. Kusum Kavia of Combustion Associates, Inc. Elected Vice-Chair to Riverside County Manufacturers and Exporters Association

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Riverside County Office of Foreign Trade has elected Ms. Kusum Kavia, Executive Vice President of Corona-based Combustion Associates, Inc. (CAI) as Vice-Chair to the Riverside County Manufacturers and Exporters Association. Companies attending the first meeting have been identified by the Office of Foreign Trade over the years as major exporters from Riverside County in Southern California.

"I am honored to be included in the association," Kavia said. "CAI has a strong history of exporting success. The Manufacturers and Exporters Association will create a valuable pool of information and support that will be of great assistance to local enterprises navigating the challenging environment of global trade."

The Office of Foreign Trade plans to formally organize 4,000 local manufacturers and exporters into a single unified organization to promote manufacturing and exporting. ***The new organization will be the largest single manufacturers and exporters association in California.***

"The purpose of the association is simple: collectively educate each other to encourage more exporting, take positions as an association on issues that collectively affect doing business in California, explore doing business with each other and build more contacts in various countries to broaden the export market for its members," said Richard Dozier, Senior Foreign Trade Specialist with the Office of Foreign Trade.

The next meeting will take place Feb. 1, 2012 and soon thereafter by-laws will be made public. The organization will be managed by its officers, board and member manufacturers. The County of Riverside will provide staff support and office space as needed as the association grows.

About CAI

CAI is a manufacturer and EPC for modular power plants and skid-mounted process systems. CAI is currently in the commissioning phase of an 80 MW "Green Field" Power Plant in West Africa. Other exports include the countries of Belize, China, Jordan and Kazakhstan. For more information visit www.cai3.com.

In 2011, CAI was awarded the Presidential "E" Award for Excellence in Exporting by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. This is the highest honor a company receives from the U.S. Department of Commerce. Over the years, the company has been the recipient of numerous other awards including 2009 Exporter of the Year award for Sub-Saharan Africa by the U.S. Export-Import Bank and the 2008 National Minority Person of the Year Award by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

