

LOUISIANA CONNECTION

CHINA

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

China is the second-largest investor in Louisiana from Asia, with \$2.97 billion in total capital investment and 570 jobs created since 2003. Louisiana companies have also established a presence in China with 12 projects since 2003 that represent a total capital investment of \$47.3 million in which 77 jobs were created.

CASE STUDY

In April 2017, Governor John Bel Edwards and Wanhua Chemical Chairman and CEO Zengati Liao announced the company will develop a chemical manufacturing complex in Louisiana, with plans for the \$1.12 billion project leading to a specific site selection in the coming months. Wanhua will produce methylene diphenyl diisocyanate, or MDI, in the project, which will combine a \$954 million capital investment by Wanhua with a \$166 million capital investment by project partners. Louisiana Economic Development estimates the project will result in a total of 1,115 new jobs in the state.

Immediate access to an abundant supply of natural gas and other feedstocks, along with deepwater transportation via the Mississippi River made Louisiana a natural fit for Wanhua's investment. To secure Wanhua's investment, the State of Louisiana offered the company a competitive incentive package that includes the comprehensive solutions of LED FastStart, the No.1 state workforce development program in the nation for seven years in a row. The state also offered the company a performance-based grant of \$4.3 million to offset site infrastructure costs, and Wanhua is expected to use the state's Quality Jobs and Industrial Tax Exemption programs.

"Wanhua looks forward to being part of the Louisiana business community and the local community where we will build our operations. Our desire to be a good industry neighbor will be evident in our focus on workforce development, local hiring and our commitment to safe and environmentally responsible operations. Our employees will be fully engaged in the local community and we will communicate regularly and openly."

Zengati Liao

Chairman & CEO, Wanhua Chemical Group



INTERMODAL ACCESS: Given its location on the Gulf coast and at the mouth of the Mississippi River, Louisiana is poised for international business with transport options including six deepwater ports, six class one railroads, and two international airports.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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TRADE

EXPORTS TO CHINA	
Agricultural Products	\$5.7 billion
Oil & Gas	\$1.02 billion
Chemicals	\$814.6 million
Other	\$398.6 million
TOTAL	\$7.9 billion

IMPORTS FROM CHINA	
Chemicals	\$407.5 million
Metal Products	\$130 million
Apparel Manufacturing Products	\$104.7 million
Other	\$682.6 million
TOTAL	\$1.3 billion

Foreign Trade Division, U.S. Census Bureau (2017)

CHINESE COMPANIES IN LOUISIANA

- China Ocean Shipping Companies Group
- Huawei Technologies Co., LTD.
- Shandong Yuhuang Chemical
- Wanhua Industrial Group

LOUISIANA COMPANIES IN CHINA

- Centurylink, Inc.
- Intralox

CULTURAL TIES AND RESOURCES

EDUCATION

The cities of Baton Rouge and New Orleans both have outstanding international schools offering full immersion in Chinese. The **Academy of Chinese Studies in New Orleans** was established in 1977, and is the largest Chinese school in New Orleans.

Louisiana State University's Emerging Markets Initiative fosters connections with China for students from all over the state.

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE / 100,000 STRONG FOUNDATION

The 100,000 Strong Foundation, founded with the support of the Chinese and U.S. governments, recently helped launch the Advance Louisiana Program in partnership with the Confucius Institute of Louisiana's Xavier University. This program, the first of its kind in the U.S., aims to strengthen China-U.S. ties by promoting the study of Chinese language and culture.

THE NEW ORLEANS CHINESE ASSOCIATION

Established in 1970, the organization aims to strengthen cooperation and friendship among Chinese-Americans; promote and preserve the Chinese culture and heritage; and increase the academic, professional and social status of Chinese-Americans. The group works to help Chinese-Americans merge into mainstream American society while also making connections with other Asian-American communities in the area.

