



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chamber Of Commerce Says Economy Growing

An Omaha businessman's "snap" decision is now a success story, but is he the exception in this troubled economy?

Jonathan McIntosh is one of 3,600 Chamber of Commerce members in the metro. The economy was on many minds at the year-in-review chamber meeting Tuesday.

Overall, the chamber shows Omaha businesses are continuing to grow with new businesses and jobs still being added. McIntosh, president/CEO of SnapStone, hopes to see his business continue the same trend.

His product made national news on NBC's Today Show Tuesday morning. "Kind of had one of those forehead moments of why hasn't this been done before?"

It's being done now and makes tiling your floor much easier. They're called SnapStones. "It starts out with a quality porcelain tile and on the back is where the secret sauce is, we have a built-in sub-floor substrate and around the outside edges there are teeth. Align the tabs, typically start on one side and click the two together." Put in some grout and you're done.

It's a growing business, just taking off. "We had about a 15-fold growth from 2006 to 2007," says McIntosh.

The SnapStone Company at 134th and F is just one example of what many businesses are experiencing in the metro. At the annual Chamber of Commerce meeting, despite national fears of a economic slowdown, 1,500 people learned about Omaha's economic success of 2007.

"We're still being impacted by housing as it is happening around the rest of the country, but our economy has been able to generate a lot of other investments in other areas that has caused construction to happen, job creation to happen, investment to happen," says David Brown of the Chamber of Commerce.

"Forty-five projects that we were able to close, that's about \$250 million in capital investments and about 1,500 new jobs."

McIntosh did his part in bringing jobs to Omaha. When he bought the SnapStone concept in 2005, he moved production from Mexico back to Omaha.

SnapStone tiles are sold at Nebraska Furniture Mart and Menards. They're also in some Canadian Home Depot stores and McIntosh says there's a lot of interest from other businesses.

About SnapStone

SnapStone is manufactured by CoMc LLC in Omaha, NE. SnapStone is a modular, snap together tile system that enables anyone to achieve professional tile results in less time and at less cost. It is a smart solution for installers and do-it-yourselfers. The heart of the porcelain tile system is an innovative interlocking plastic tray. Beautiful, high quality porcelain tiles are permanently fixated to the tray, which can be installed directly over existing vinyl, hardwood and concrete. The floating floor system can be installed and grouted in a single day, using specially formulated SnapStone Flexible Grout. SnapStone is assembled using patented sophisticated robotic manufacturing systems that ensure precision and quality. Built to last, SnapStone is backed by a 10-year limited warranty.