

# News Clips Report

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Advocate, The

**12/20/2010**

The following is a roundup of area news from Monday:

**ALBEMARLE BOARD MEMBER:**Specialties chemical maker Albemarle Corp., of Baton Rouge, has named William H. Hernandez to its board of directors effective Jan. 1.

Hernandez is the retired senior vice president of Finance and chief financial officer of PPG Industries Inc., a global manufacturer of coatings and specialty products.

“ A respected industry veteran, Bill’ s global financial background and industry insight will bring additional perspectives to an already strong and diverse board of directors,” said Mark Rohr, chairman and CEO of Albemarle. “ Bill’ s 40 years of experience will serve Albemarle and its shareholders well as we position the company to successfully leverage the global opportunities that are before us.”

**LSU COMPUTING NETWORK:** The LSU Advanced Networking Lab has developed a new computer tool for large-scale scientific research.

The new system is called CRON, short for Cyberinfrastructure of Reconfigurable Optical Networking.

The system provides multiple “ virtual testbeds” for scientists to conduct research and connect them to high-speed networks that include the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative and nationally to Internet2 and the National Lambda Rail.

“ A large number of LSU researchers can take advantage of those virtually created high speed networking and computing environments and use the tools developed by CRON to advance science discovery,” said Joel Tohline, director of CCT and professor of LSU’ s department of physics and astronomy.

The National Science Foundation provided funding for the CRON project.

**ACADEMY SPORTS IN LAFAYETTE:** Academy Sports & Outdoors has signed a lease for a new 69,140-square-foot store at the **Stirling Lafayette Shopping Center** in Lafayette, according to **Stirling Properties**.

Stirling Properties, based in Covington, secured the lease for the new store.

An official announcement is expected after the holidays, according to Stirling.

Academy has 14 stores in Louisiana, including two in Baton Rouge and one in Lafayette.

**GM RECYCLING OIL BOOMS:** General Motors plans to recycle the booms used to soak up oil that spewed from the BP well in the Gulf of Mexico, the company announced Monday.

The large absorbent booms are usually buried in landfills, according to the automaker. With the GM recycling program, the booms are being pulled from the water, spun clean and processed and remolded into car parts such as air deflectors for the new Chevrolet Volt’ s radiator.

So far, the program has prevented over 100 miles of booms from being dumped into landfills. GM estimates it will get