



PRESS RELEASE  
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## **LA Edible Creations Center Awarded \$7,500 Grant for Packaging Equipment**

### **Grant will help local food companies expand into new markets**

**(Gonzales, LA- January 17, 2007)** The Louisiana Edible Creations Center (LECC) has added new packaging equipment to its existing commercial kitchen equipment. The addition of this packaging equipment will further enhance the capabilities of the tenants who use the 5,000 square foot kitchen incubator at the Lamar Dixon facility. LECC is the first kitchen incubator in the State of Louisiana promoting the creation of small businesses in the food industry.

“The addition of this equipment will allow tenants to package their finished products for public consumption,” said Edie Michel, Director of Business Development for the Ascension Economic Development Corporation.

The equipment was purchased through a \$7,500.00 grant made possible by the Louisiana Business Incubator Association (LBIA) through funds from Louisiana Department of Economic Development.

Packaging equipment purchased with the grant include a Synthesis Shrink Wrap machine with various film capabilities and a Direct Heat Sealer that can crimp seal all types of thermoplastic packaging materials. A future grant will provide bottling equipment that could be used for sauces and liquid products.

Six tenants have utilized the facility since its inception in June of 2006. With the addition of the LBIA grant, more than \$32,000 has been raised in public and private contributions for the incubator since June of 2006.

For a tour of the LECC or more information on the Louisiana Edible Creations Center, contact Edie Michel at (225) 644-0142 or visit us online at: [www.ascensionedc.com/ediblecreations.html](http://www.ascensionedc.com/ediblecreations.html)