



**PRESS RELEASE**  
*For Immediate Release*

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## **LA Edible Creations Center to receive grant for flash freezing equipment**

**State grant will assist in purchasing flash freezer for long term use for tenants**

**(Gonzales, LA- February 14, 2008)** The Louisiana Edible Creations Center (LECC) at Lamar Dixon has received a \$49,300 grant for the purchase of a nitrogen flash freezer at the facility. The flash freezer was installed in October of 2007 and was loaned to the facility by Air Products while LECC installed the proper piping and safety equipment and purchased nitrogen for the use by LECC tenants. The grant will allow the LECC to purchase the flash freezer to remain in the facility permanently.

The grant was awarded through the Louisiana Business Incubators Association through the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. LECC is the first kitchen incubator in the State of Louisiana promoting the creation of small businesses in the food industry and is a program of the Ascension Economic Development Corporation (AEDC). AEDC matched approximately \$20,000 for the project from public and private sources.

“The addition of this equipment has allowed tenants to nitrogen freeze such products as cheese balls, gumbo, and even espresso shots and save time and labor in developing their products,” said Tommy Kurtz, President/CEO of AEDC, “in fact, one of our tenants- Jazzy Bird Café- would not be in stores today without the flash freezing equipment to create their frozen espresso shots.” LECC is the only food incubator in the country with flash freezing capabilities.

Products being made at LECC include frozen espresso shots, marinades, gumbo roux, cakes, pralines, gourmet butters, and turnovers with more than a dozen tenants using the facility on an average basis.

For a tour of the LECC or more information on the Louisiana Edible Creations Center, contact Tommy Kurtz at (225) 675-1750 or visit us online at: [www.laediblecreations.org](http://www.laediblecreations.org)