

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact:

Jane L. White, LEED® AP
VP, Sales and Marketing
Finelite
510-441-1100



U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios Attends Roundtable Event at Finelite

Local CEOs discuss state of manufacturing industry

Union City, CA – 03/21/2012 – Finelite had the honor of hosting a closed roundtable discussion attended by senior official U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios. Organized by East Bay Economic Development Alliance (EDA) and East Bay Manufacturing Group (EBMG), Ms. Rios praised the San Francisco Bay Area manufacturing CEOs she met to discuss the state of the manufacturing industry. The event took place March 20, 2012 at Finelite in Union City, California.

Rios Says US on Road to Recovery

Ms. Rios is a member of President Barack Obama’s Business Council and a senior adviser to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner. Before heading into the event, she said, “Job creation happens to be at the forefront of this recovery and it also happens to be my passion.” The 30-40 manufacturing firms in attendance had a chance to talk to Rios confidentially about what was and was not working with the Obama administration’s current manufacturing initiatives and federal policies. Rios has been meeting with similar groups across the nation and recently related that she believed the American economy is on the road to recovery.

Finelite Takes Lead Role

Terry Clark, Chairman and Chief Technology Officer of Finelite, said he was honored to host the event for Rios. He commented that more jobs means more schools and offices will have better quality and more efficient lighting across the state and nation. Clark revealed the key points to Finelite’s growth strategy: “We’re vibrant, we’re expanding, we’re creating jobs.”

Presently Finelite has about 175 employees, but plans are in the works to hire 50 more people by summer. Clark said just last year hiring was across the board, from entry-level factory workers to a new CEO, Jerry Mix, whose commitment to innovation and customer service will yield continued job growth for Finelite.

Rios Sees the Light

Commenting further about the event, Clark said, “Finelite is an active participant in a number of U.S. DOE efforts to promote Solid State Lighting luminaires. Our home facility is lighted with brand new, state-of-the-art energy efficient fixtures. At the press conference, Ms. Rios not only saw a successful, environmentally concerned manufacturer, but also how DOE concepts are being turned into real products that are made in the U.S.”

About Finelite

Finelite is a U.S. manufacturer whose LED-based products ship throughout the United States and Canada. They have won national-level awards from the DOE and just announced an industry leading 10-year warranty. Their supply chain reaches across 900 manufacturing jobs that have helped buoy the economy. In addition, Finelite operates a LEAN manufacturing facility that enables it to keep jobs in the United States.

Finelite designs and builds innovative, high performance lighting systems for offices, educational

and healthcare facilities. Products include ambient LED lighting, LED task lighting, high performance fluorescent general illumination light fixtures, and patented plug-and-play lighting systems. Finelite works with architects, contractors and building owners to make lighting work better for people, reduce energy consumption, and meet schedules and budgets. By joining forces with the California Energy Commission and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, Finelite has received national awards for its lighting research projects. Research findings, design support and education programs are available at no cost.

###

FINELITE
Better Lighting