

Good morning, I am delighted to be here today to take part in such a remarkable celebration.

It is an exciting time in St. James Parish as we plan for the future with new concepts and reviewing our resources from a different angle. We want to take what we have and make it better.

Advancement starts on a local level with our existing businesses and industries.

To the naked eye, these cranes look like complex machines used to load and unload materials.

It's a simple system that's been in place since the ancient roman times.

When I look at these machines, I see nothing but direct opportunities for improvement for St. James Stevedoring and St. James Parish.



- Parish relies on our agriculture processing & our industries.
- Just under a thousand employees along the river.
- Investment meaning to the parish.
- Direct opportunities for residents.
- Both sides of the river expanding with existing industries & companies.

This is an amazing contribution St. James Stevedoring has made to their company and to our parish.

I would like to commend them for their efforts in being proactive.

We are attracting new development and looking at new strategies to increase parish growth.

Within time, we will become the anchor that attracts new opportunities and investors to Louisiana.

**(Mention working relationship between parish, Paul & staff.)**

**(Thank local officials & area business leaders for attendance.)**