



PHOTO PROVIDED

U.S. Rep. John Shimkus (second from left) made several stops in White County Tuesday morning, including a visit to the Carmi headquarters of Elastec/American Marine.

Shimkus was welcomed by (left to right) Donnie Wilson, chief executive officer; Shari Stout of Peoria, international trade specialist from U.S. Export Assistance, U.S. Department of Commerce; Jeff Bohleber, chief financial officer; and Jeff Cantrell, vice president.

Shimkus and the group toured the facility and then held a presentation and meeting in the board room. The event lasted a little over an hour.

Accompanying Shimkus was his aide, Holly Healy of Norris City. Bill G. Harmon, an Elastec director, was also present.

Elastec/American Marine honored for export success

Special to The Times

U.S. Rep. John Shimkus presented the U.S. Commerce Department's Export Achievement Certificate to Elastec/American Marine Tuesday.

The presentation took place at the company's Carmi headquarters and manufacturing plant.

The certificate recognizes successful entry into China and other countries around the world with the company's oil spill equipment.

"Entry into Asia and increased international sales are a direct benefit of assis-

tance provided by the Peoria Export Assistance Center, U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce," said a spokesman for the government agency. Elastec/American Marine now serves customers in more than 100 countries.

Following the presentation, Shimkus toured the plant to observe production of the company's diverse products.

Shari Stout, director of the Peoria Export Assistance Center, U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, was also on hand.

The Export Achievement Certificate was created to rec-

ognize small and medium-sized enterprises that have successfully entered the international marketplace for the first time or that have successfully entered a new market with the assistance of the U.S. Commercial Service.

The local Export Assistance Center of the U.S. Commercial Service nominates those candidates who have met the criteria and have positively contributed to the global environment through their export efforts. Export Achievement Certificates are presented in ceremonies that can include U.S. Commercial

Service officials and local elected officials.

Elastec/American Marine is the largest manufacturer of oil spill recovery equipment in the U.S., with over 30 years' experience. The firm manufactures a variety of innovative environmental protection products such as oil spill response equipment, portable vacuum systems, boom, portable medical incinerators used extensively by the U.S. Army in the Middle East, and ATV oil spill response vehicles.

For additional information, one may visit www.elastec.com