Amarillo Economic Development Corporation Names Dr. Andreas Eckstein as President & CEO

(Amarillo, Texas – May 2026) The Amarillo Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) recently announced the selection of Dr. Andreas Eckstein as its next President & Chief Executive Officer following a comprehensive national search conducted by the AEDC Board of Directors. The Chason Group led the executive search process for AEDC.

Dr. Eckstein brings more than two decades of executive leadership experience in economic development, global investment strategy, and public-private partnership development. He will lead AEDC's strategic direction and operations at a pivotal time as Amarillo continues to strengthen its competitive position, attract new investment, and expand opportunities for long-term economic growth.

Dr. Eckstein most recently served as Managing Director for Invest in Niedersachsen, where he established and led U.S. operations for Germany's second-largest state's economic development organization. In this role, he was responsible for driving foreign direct investment, corporate expansion, and strategic transatlantic partnerships across North America and Europe. Over the course of his career, he has played a direct role in securing more than $1 billion in capital investment - in the fields of automotive, aerospace and defense, AI, food processing, and manufacturing- supporting thousands of new jobs through complex, multi-party economic development initiatives.

Earlier in his career, Dr. Eckstein held senior leadership roles at Hannover Re SE, where he oversaw strategic investments, innovation initiatives, and global expansion. His experience includes advising executive leadership, boards, and governmental entities on investment strategy, site selection, and long-term economic impact.

New Contact Information

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"Dr. Eckstein distinguished himself throughout this process with his depth of international economic development experience, strategic mindset, and proven ability to deliver results in highly competitive environments," said Elliot McKinney, Chair of the AEDC Board of Directors. "He brings a unique combination of global perspective, operational discipline, and partnership-driven leadership. The Board is confident that he will build on AEDC's strong foundation and help position Amarillo for continued growth and long-term success."

"I am honored to be selected as the next President & CEO of the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation," said Dr. Eckstein. "AEDC plays a critical role in shaping the economic future of Amarillo and the broader region. I look forward to working closely with the Board, staff, and community partners to build on the city's strong assets, attract new investment, and create sustainable opportunities for businesses and residents alike."

As President & CEO, Dr. Eckstein will serve as the organization's chief executive, responsible for advancing AEDC's strategic priorities, overseeing operations, and ensuring the effective stewardship of public resources.

Founded in 1989, the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation works to promote business expansion, job creation, and capital investment throughout the region.

Dr. Eckstein holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration & Management, an MBA, and a Bachelor's degree in International Management.