



## The Star-Ledger

### GARDEN STATE BRIEFS

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Gov. Jon Corzine and several trade groups are asking manufacturers to participate in a survey starting today to determine what they need to do to compete against foreign counterparts in the future.

Manufacturers throughout the state will be receiving a letter from Corzine asking them to fill out the survey at [ngmstudy-newjersey.com](http://ngmstudy-newjersey.com). The effort is part of a national study of U.S. manufacturing capabilities, according to Robert Loderstedt, president of the New Jersey Manufacturers Extension Program.

Results of the survey will help companies "develop a long-term manufacturing strategy and pathways to improve the competitiveness of New Jersey's manufacturers," he said.

The survey is being conducted by the NJMEP, a Morris Plains trade group. Other groups supporting the project include the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, New Jersey Technology Council, New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey and the Employers Association of New Jersey.

-- Joseph R. Perone

#### Hertz's stock rises

Hertz Global Holdings, the largest U.S. publicly traded rental-car company, climbed 9.4 percent in New York trading after raising prices on North American airport rentals by \$5 a day and \$30 a week to counter higher costs and lower car resale values.

The increase was prompted by rising vehicle-maintenance and repair expenses as well as the slow used car market, which reduced the value of fleet vehicles it sells to the public, the Park Ridge, New Jersey-based company said today in a statement.

-- Bloomberg News

#### Drugmaker sues Wyeth

Wyeth, the Madison-based drugmaker being bought by Pfizer, was sued by India's Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, seeking an order affirming a Wyeth agreement not to sue over patents for the antidepressant drug Effexor.

Sun notified Wyeth on Jan. 30 of plans to pursue U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval for an extended-release tablet form of Effexor, which Wyeth makes in capsule form, according to a lawsuit filed Feb. 5 in federal court in Wilmington, Del.

Sun is asking for a jury trial, unspecified damages and a ruling that the Wyeth promise not to sue is enforceable.

-- Bloomberg News

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