

**LEC NOW LAREDO ENERGY ARENA, STATE OF THE BUCKS
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LAREDO, TX- The City of Laredo, along with the Laredo Bucks officially announced Wednesday that the Laredo Entertainment Center has become Laredo Energy Arena effective immediately.

The announcement was made to the media and a large number of corporate partners and fans at a press conference at the main entrance of the arena.

Bucks Majority Owner Glenn Hart is also the President and CEO of Laredo Energy. Laredo Energy signed a four-year naming rights agreement with options for extension with the City of Laredo. This is the first time in its history that the building has had another name other than the Laredo Entertainment Center.

“We know most arenas and stadiums across the country have established names associated with their facility,” said Mayor Raul G. Salinas. “The City of Laredo was waiting for the right corporate partner to be able to bring their company’s good name together with our great facility; that is exactly what we have now with Laredo Energy and now, the Laredo Energy Arena. Laredo Energy is a strong, stable company that has established ties, local support and has demonstrated a faith in our city with their continued community involvement. Additionally, I am also very pleased that the city’s beautiful name is still in the new name of the arena; people will still think of Laredo when they think of quality, exciting and affordable entertainment at the Laredo Energy Arena,” Salinas concluded.

The 178,000 square foot Laredo Energy Arena opened in 2002 and can seat up to 8,002 people for hockey, and up to 10,000 for concerts. It has 14 luxury suites, four meeting rooms and a private club for 200 season-ticketholders.

GLENN HART’S “STATE OF THE BUCKS” ADDRESS

Also on Wednesday Hart issued a “state of the Bucks” address to those in attendance and spoke about the future of the eight-year-old franchise.

Hart said the Bucks have four years on their lease with the arena and intend to complete the term of that agreement in Laredo, and hopefully for many years beyond that.

“Our Bucks season ticket holders and corporate partners are major reasons why we have been and will continue to be so successful in the City of Laredo and surrounding communities,” said Hart. “Just like any other business the Bucks have been hurt by the economy but that will not stop us from continuing to provide great family entertainment for the people of Laredo and the surrounding area.”

The Bucks are considered one of the premier franchises in professional sports having won two President's Cup Championships in 2004 and 2006, one Governor's Cup Regular Season Championship (2003-04), as well as several off-ice awards including the 2002-03 CHL Franchise of the Year.

"We cannot continue here in Laredo without the help of each and every one of the residents in this great city," Hart continued. "I remember back to the first championship back in 2004 when we had 8,002 people in the building and another 3,000 people outside watching on big screens. We need your help to win. Let's pack this place like we used to and win our third President's Cup Championship!"

ABOUT GLENN HART AND LAREDO ENERGY

Glenn Hart went to work for Laredo based Sanchez-O'Brien Oil & Gas in September 1980 and he's been drilling around Laredo ever since. Hart was co-founder of Michael Petroleum in 1983 which was sold to Calpine Natural Gas (now called Rosetta Resources) in August 2001.

Hart was co-founder of Laredo Energy in September 2001. Michael Petroleum and Laredo Energy have held oil & gas leases on over 500,000 acres in Webb and Zapata Counties through their combined history. Laredo Energy currently holds in excess of 200,000 acres of oil and gas leases in Webb, Zapata, and LaSalle Counties.

Michael Petroleum and Laredo Energy have drilled or acquired nearly 1,000 wells in Webb & Zapata Counties through their combined history.

Laredo Energy is currently actively leasing property and drilling wells in Webb and LaSalle Counties. Laredo Energy currently maintains an office in Zapata, TX, and Laredo, TX.