

# Manufacturing in the News

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2009

## NOVEMBER

- SAT 11.03.09 Deal boosts local links with China**  
Kevin Wiatrowski, Tampa Tribune  
With its announcement last week of a \$200 million contract with the Chinese government, Dais Analytic joined the ranks of Florida companies trading with the world's most populous country – a relationship worth \$6.5 billion statewide.  
The deal promises to broaden Pasco County's manufacturing base by adding 1,000 new jobs over the next five years. Manufacturing now makes up about 4 percent of Pasco's jobs - a miniscule figure compared to neighboring counties but one that county officials are trying to increase.  
Full Article: <http://suncoastpasco.tbo.com/content/2009/oct/03/pg-deal-boosts-local-links-with-china>
- FRI 11.06.09 Polk to see manufacturing facility, solar array**  
Charles Gonzalez, News Chief  
Polk County will be getting more jobs and could become a leader in renewable and solar energies in the state of Florida.  
A concrete company run by Metromont Corporation has already broken ground on an 82-acre site south of Bartow and is proceeding with the construction of a brand-new, 50,000-square-foot manufacturing facility. The facility will manufacture structural pre-cast/pre-stressed concrete products and is expected to open by early next year.  
Full Article: <http://www.newschief.com/article/20091106/NEWS/911065037/1021/NEWS01?Title=Polk-to-see-manufacturing-facility-solar-array>
- WED 11.11.09 Nutri-Force Nutrition Announces the Completion of its new manufacturing facility**  
La Voz Nueva  
Nutri-Force Nutrition is proud to announce the completion of its innovative new manufacturing facility in Miami Lakes, Florida. This new facility was designed from the ground up to provide Nutri-Force's highly-valued customers with industry-leading quality and exceptionally efficient manufacturing resources.  
Full Article: [http://www.lavozcolorado.com/news\\_pr.php?nid=15922](http://www.lavozcolorado.com/news_pr.php?nid=15922)
- FRI 11.13.09 Saft confirms location for lithium-ion battery factory in Jacksonville, Florida**  
SAFT Press Release  
Following receipt of a \$95 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and successful negotiations between Saft, the state of Florida, and the city of Jacksonville, construction will soon begin in Jacksonville for the lithium-ion (Li-ion) factory of the future. The total estimated cost of the project is around \$200 million, and it will bring roughly 279 jobs to the area during the next six years.

**WED 11.18.09 Building a better workforce**

Klint Lowry, Suncoast News

Time was, the American Dream game plan was you went to school, then you went to work. In today's business world, the education never ends - training and retraining employees. In a high-speed, high-tech world of innovation and competition, entire operations occasionally need a shot of fresh thinking.

Full Article: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2009/nov/18/s5-building-a-better-workforce/>

**DECEMBER 2009**

**FRI 12.04.09 State manufacturing advocates showcase programs at White House**

Tampa Bay Business Journal

The Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership presented one of its most successful job training programs at President Obama's White House forum on jobs and economic growth Thursday.

Rod Rodrigue, MEP executive director, presented MEP's Mobile Outreach Skills Training Program, which uses a mobile training classroom for teaching unemployed workers.

Full Article: <http://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/stories/2009/11/30/daily52.html>

**FRI 12.04.09 Strategic product moves at PGT aimed at maintaining, growing jobs**

Jane Meinhardt, Tampa Bay Business Journal

PGT Inc. unveiled the latest expansion of its energy efficient product portfolio this week when it showcased PremierVue windows to distributors. A major Bay area employer, PGT is banking on the federal energy tax credit in the stimulus program.

Full Article:

[http://tampabay.bizjournals.com/tampabay/stories/2009/12/07/story7.html?b=1260162000^2545451&ana=e\\_vert](http://tampabay.bizjournals.com/tampabay/stories/2009/12/07/story7.html?b=1260162000^2545451&ana=e_vert)

**SAT 12.05.09 Naples company launches apprenticeship program with video**

Liz Freeman, Naplesnews.com

As companies continue to downsize their work force and put internal career advancement programs on hold during the lingering recession, Naples-based Arthrex Inc. has a different mind-set. The medical device manufacturing company, which makes more than 3,000 products for arthroscopic and minimally invasive orthopedic surgery, is launching an apprenticeship program for four individuals to become machinists running computer-based manufacturing systems.

Full Article: <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2009/dec/05/naples-company-launches-apprenticeship-program/>

**TUES 12.08.09 Ross mixing expands manufacturing plant in Florida**

Chemical Online

Ross Industries Inc. announced the approval to expand its Ross Mixing Inc. manufacturing plant in Port St. Lucie, FL. The expansion will add nearly 12,000 sq. ft. to the existing building. The new total enclosed manufacturing

space at this location will increase to approx. 45,000 sq. ft. The contract for the expansion will be awarded before the end of the year with completion being planned for mid 2010.

Full Article: <http://www.chemicalonline.com/article.mvc/Ross-Mixing-Expands-Manufacturing-Plant-In-0001?atc-c=771+s=773+r=001+l=a>

**MON 12.14.09 Made in South Florida: Homegrown products search for a niche**

Toluse Olorunnipa, Miami Herald

Long before the most recent recession began, South Florida's once robust manufacturing sector quietly began fading away, shedding thousands of jobs each year even as the economy expanded. Between 1990 and 2008, the portion of South Florida's job market attributed to manufacturing fell from 9.1 percent to 3.9 percent, with a net loss of 66,800 jobs, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Full Article: <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/southflorida/story/1379738.html>

**MON 12.14.09 Surfboard manufacturer braves rough conditions**

Toluse Olorunnipa, Miami Herald

Carlos Reyes took a lesson from the surfer's manual when his custom surfboard building business went under in 1997 -- after a wipeout, get up and get ready for the next wave. The 34-year-old from Miami Gardens is the second-time founder and president of C-Shapes Surfboards, which has been manufacturing custom surfboards in South Florida since 2003.

Full Article: <http://www.miamiherald.com/business/story/1379745.html>

**TUES 12.15.09 French medical equipment company puts U.S. headquarters in Manatee County**

Herald Tribune

Trod Medical S.A., a Paris-based medical equipment manufacturer, has opened its U.S. headquarters in Manatee County. Trod said the office, at 11045 Gatewood Drive, will spearhead the company's launch of its Food and Drug Administration-approved Encage surgical device in the summer.

Full Article: <http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20091215/ARTICLE/912151034/-1/NEWSITEMAP?tc=ar>

## General Manufacturing in the News

### NOVEMBER 2009

**MON 11.02.09 U.S Manufacturing hits growth spurt**

Dayton Business Journal

The U.S. manufacturing industry appears to be on the upswing. In October, the index used to measure the strength of the industry, the PMI, hit 55.7 percent, marking the third straight month of growth, according to the latest report from Tempe, Ariz.-based Institute for Supply Management. The October PMI also posted the highest reading since April 2006.

Full Article: <http://dayton.bizjournals.com/dayton/stories/2009/11/02/daily2.html?s=industry&i=manufacturing>

**TUES 11.03.09 U.S still on top of manufacturing world**

Manufacturing.net

While U.S. manufacturing jobs have shrunk from 20 million in 1980 to about 12 million today, the U.S. has never been more important in global manufacturing. Manufacturing.net spoke with Dr. Chris Kuehl, Economic Analyst, Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, to learn what he believes the future holds for U.S. manufacturing.

Full Article: <http://www.manufacturing.net/Article-US-Still-On-Top-Of-Manufacturing-World-110309.aspx>

**DECEMBER 2009**

**WED 12.09.09 Manufacturers retool to fix industry image**

NewsOK

It's enough to make any manufacturer get the blues. A recent national poll of teens showed 52 percent have little or no interest in a manufacturing career, and another 21 percent are ambivalent. A majority, or 61 percent, said their goal is a professional career.

Full Article: [http://www.newsok.com/manufacturers-retool-to-fix-industry-mage/article/3423622?custom\\_click=lead\\_story\\_title](http://www.newsok.com/manufacturers-retool-to-fix-industry-mage/article/3423622?custom_click=lead_story_title)

**December**

**What 2010 will mean for manufacturing, maintenance**

Jeff Owens, Advanced Technology Services Inc.

You don't need a crystal ball or tea leaves to see what 2010 will mean for manufacturing in the United States. All you need is a currency converter. The weak dollar will continue at least well into next year, and that means U.S.-based production will look more attractive to manufacturers.

Full Article: <http://www.reliableplant.com/Article.aspx?articleid=21601>