

Manufacturing in the News

SEPTEMBER 2009

TUES 09.01.09 Engineering a change: First woman dean of UF engineering

Cynthia Barnett

This summer, the University of Florida named Cammy Abernathy dean of the College of Engineering. The first woman dean in the college's 100 years, Abernathy is a longtime professor of materials science who earned her doctorate at Stanford and came to UF from AT&T's Bell Laboratories in New Jersey.

Full Article: <http://www.floridatrend.com/article.asp?aID=51612>

TUES 09.01.09 Cosmetics company looking to move to Palm Springs

Brian Bandell, South Florida Business Journal

Oxygen Development is considering moving its 400 employees to Palm Springs, where it would add another 400 employees with the help of a county-approved bond. The Palm Beach County Commission on Tuesday unanimously approved a measure to issue up to \$24 million in recovery zone facility bonds, which would be used as a tax-free loan solely repayable by Oxygen Development.

Full Article: <http://southflorida.bizjournals.com/southflorida/stories/2009/08/31/daily24.html>

TUES 09.10.09 HCC to open biotech training center

Lindsay Peterson, Tampa Tribune

Starting in January, Hillsborough Community College plans to offer a new program for people who want to work in biotechnology.

An HCC-based academic center surveyed dozens of high-tech companies in the Tampa area last year. The results, released this week, show that such companies need educated workers from all levels – Ph.D.s to community college graduates.

Full article: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2009/sep/10/hcc-open-biotech-training-center/>

FRI 09.18.09 Defense contract Chromalloy fires up presence

Janet Leiser, Tampa Bay Business Journal

Chromalloy, a company that manufactures parts and repairs gas turbine engines, plans to double its local staff and invest \$12 million in a new Tampa Bay area facility to boost production.

“There’s not going to be another manufacturing facility like this in the world. We’re really excited we were able to bring this project to Tampa,” said Tom Trotter, VP and regional manager.

Full Article: http://tampabay.bizjournals.com/tampabay/stories/2009/09/21/story3.html?b=1253505600*2115551&ana=e_vert

MON 09.21.09 Taurus to remain in Miami Gardens

South Florida Business Journal

Gun maker Taurus International Manufacturing will stay in Miami Gardens,

add 123 new employees over three years and make a \$7.8 million capital investment, the Beacon Council said Monday.

The company's 59,500-square-foot-facility near the Palmetto Expressway will be renovated and expanded by 26,500 square feet.

Full Article: <http://southflorida.bizjournals.com/southflorida/stories/2009/09/21/daily13.html>

MON 09.21.09 Mitsubishi plant to create 500 jobs near Savannah

Global Atlanta.com

Mitsubishi Power Systems Americas Inc., a Florida-based subsidiary of Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industry Ltd., will invest \$325 million to build a new steam and gas turbine plant outside Savannah, eventually hiring 500 people. Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue and Mitsubishi Power Systems Senior Vice President Dave Walsh made the announcement at a groundbreaking Monday, Sept. 21.

Full Article: <http://www.globalatlanta.com/article/21347/>

THURS 09.24.09 Brevard eyed for new plant

Rick Neale, Florida Today

A Minnesota ductwork manufacturer wants to open a \$2.5 million plant in Brevard County. CDC Enterprises Inc., makes polyethylene piping for residential and commercial heating and cooling systems. President Jon Jungers said one of his products, AKDUCT, is perfect for the air conditioning units of manufactured homes in Florida.

Full Article:

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20090924/BUSINESS/909240307/1006/news01/Brevard+eyed+for+new+plant>

TUES 09.29.09 Fiberglas-mold maker gets state incentives

Laura Ruane, News-Press

Cape Coral design and manufacturing business that radically diversified during the recession plans to add 75 jobs during the next three years. "This will help us invest in people, in education and in new technology," said Matt Chambers, president of sister companies JRL Ventures Inc. and Marine Concepts.

Full Article: <http://www.news-press.com/article/20090929/NEWS0101/909290346>

September Florida Company makes it right, moves manufacturing back to USA

Manufacturing & Technology eJournal

In a unique move that bucks the growing trend of companies importing their products from China, Hy-Lite/U S Block Windows recently moved all their Hy-Lite vinyl extrusion purchases and acrylic block manufacturing out of China and back into the United States.

"When we acquired Hy-Lite earlier this year we learned much of the company's acrylic block and vinyl extrusion manufacturing was being done in China,' says Roger Murphy, president of Hy-Lite/U S Block Windows.

"We immediately set to work to bring those processes and jobs back to America.'

Full Article: <http://mfrtech.com/articles/2582.html>

General Manufacturing in the News

SEPTEMBER 2009

- FRI 09.04.09 US Great Lakes manufacturers outperforming-study**
Thompson Reuters
Manufacturing-intensive U.S. states in the Great Lakes region are enjoying a 'genuine' economic upswing and likely will keep outpacing other areas, especially the Northwest, according to a Goldman Sachs report. Several recent U.S. recessions have started in the Midwest, when its industrial companies shifted production to less costly areas, for example. But the current downturn took a different path as it was partly kicked off by the housing collapse that slammed coastal states, California and Florida.
Full Article: http://www.lse.co.uk/FinanceNews.asp?ArticleCode=m2vw7nu5j07mqcs&ArticleHeadline=us_great_lakes_manufacturers_outperforming-study
- FRI 09.04.09 Manufacturer survey reveals recession survival strategies**
ThomasNet News
Manufacturers detail recession survival strategies in a survey conducted in late July by sponsors of the FABTECH® International and AWS Welding Show. Of 1,046 past/prospective registrants, 69% of manufacturers indicated they reduced their workforce, 66% delayed capital expenditures, 48% negotiated with suppliers for better deals, and 37% cut promotional activities to survive the economic downturn.
Full Article: <http://news.thomasnet.com/companystory/565549>
- TUES 09.17.09 Meet Obama's new manufacturing whiz, Ron Bloom**
Manufacturing and Technology News
President Obama has done what many in the domestic manufacturing community had hoped he would do since the day he entered office: appoint a top-notch person to his White House staff to promote the interests of American manufacturing. Ron Bloom, Obama's new senior counselor for manufacturing policy, is not shy when it comes to expressing his views on the need for the U.S. government to foster a healthy industrial sector.
Full Article: <http://www.manufacturingnews.com/news/09/0917/Bloom.html>
- MON 09.21.09 Manufacturers may find wisdom in Wal-Mart's supply chain strategies**
Mark T. Hoske, Manufacturing & Business Technology
What can Wal-Mart teach manufacturing about global supply chains? Perhaps manufacturers would want to consider a best-in-market supply chain approach rather than best in class, to better meet customers' needs. Gary Maxwell, senior vice president of international supply chain for Wal-Mart Stores Inc., said a best-in-market approach requires thinking like a customer; complying with local and international laws, regulations, and customs; matching the maturity curve to the market; setting high expectations for low costs; and operating in a sustainable way.

Full Article: http://www.mblmag.com/article/354861-manufacturers_may_find_wisdom_in_Wal_Mart_retail_supply_chain_strategies.php

SUN

09.27.09 Manufacturers shift gears to stay in business

Dan Morris, Jackson Sun

At its peak in the 1990s, Hi-Tech Manufacturing in Lexington employed 42 people. Today there are three employees at the tool-and-die machine shop. "It just got to the point where we couldn't make any money," Hi-Tech owner Steve Dodds said. "The big companies we supplied, mainly automotive, had no loyalty. They began going wherever they could get it the cheapest. It was all about price, not quality."

Full Article: <http://www.jacksonsun.com/article/20090927/NEWS01/909270310>