

Manufacturing in the News

JUNE 2009

MON 06.08.09 Jabil to build SunPower solar panels in Mexico

Reuters

Solar power company SunPower Corp (SPWR.A.O) said on Monday it had signed a contract with electronics maker Jabil Circuit Inc (JBL.N) to build solar panels in Mexico beginning in the second half of 2009.

Jabil will start making solar panels for SunPower's North American solar customers in the second half of 2009, SunPower said in a statement. The San Jose, California, company said the deal was the first step in its long-term strategy to implement regional panel assembly to reduce costs.

Full Article: <http://www.reuters.com/article/ELECTU/idUSN0831589320090608>

THURS 06.11.09 PGT Industries to hire 30

Charlotte Business Journal

PGT Industries will add 30 manufacturing jobs at its plant in Salisbury.

The company is a manufacturer and supplier of residential impact-resistant windows and doors. PGT will conduct a job fair at the plant at 2121 Heilig Road from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Charlotte-based StaffMasters'

Salisbury office is managing the recruitment. Applications can be filled out at www.staffmasters.com. PGT was founded in 1980. The company has more than 1,250 employees at its manufacturing, glass-laminating and tempering plants in North Carolina and Florida.

Full Article: <http://www.bizjournals.com/charlotte/stories/2009/06/08/daily47.html>

MON 06.22.09 Grant lets Synchron get its work in sync

Patrick Peterson, Florida Today

The 25 employees of the high-tech manufacturer Synchron EMS in Melbourne will [learn](#) to streamline their work processes thanks to a \$30,000 Department of Defense grant.

It's really intended to empower and involve the people on the assembly lines that do the work," Syncon EMS president John Sjolander said of the Lean manufacturing philosophy. "Because they're closest to the process, they're best able to identify and implement changes in their process to be more efficient."

Full Article:

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20090622/BUSINESS/906220306/1006/NEWS01/Grant+lets+Synchron+get+its+work+in+sync>

WED 06.24.09 Solar panel firm "likely" to build plant in Florida

B. Kassab, Orlando Sentinel

An executive with Williard & Kelsey Group, the Ohio solar panel manufacturing firm being courted by Orlando economic development officials, told the Toledo Blade that it is "likely" to build a manufacturing plant in Florida, though he was non-committal about bringing the firm's headquarters here.

Jim Heider, chief technology officer, said in an interview that a Florida

outpost was "likely," but was "uncertain" about the fate of the company's headquarters, according to the Blade.

The solar company was visited yesterday by Vice President Joe Biden, who touted it as an example of new, alternative energy jobs that represent the future for workers let go from troubled industries like auto manufacturing. Orange County officials have put together an incentive package valued as high as \$31 million for the firm to relocate here, but Ohio officials are working to encourage the company to stay put.

Full Article: http://blogs.orlandosentinel.com/business_thebottomline/2009/06/solar-panel-firm-likely-to-build-plant-in-florida.html

THURS 06.25.09 Training grants pay off for Tampa Bay manufacturers

Market Watch

Thirty-six employees at three Manatee County manufacturing businesses are working smarter after the companies used federal training grants coordinated by the Economic Development Council, Manatee Chamber of Commerce (EDC); Suncoast Workforce Board; and Manatee Community College (MCC). RF Supply Inc. conducted one of the largest training efforts that have been funded by the grants to date. Eaton and Radiant joined forces to train 22 employees in leadership and teamwork skills. By the employers creating a larger group to train, the federal grant was able to cover the full cost, rather than requiring the usual 50 percent match by the employer. The Suncoast Workforce Board helped the companies with the grant paperwork and brought in MCC to provide training at the Lakewood Ranch campus. (Contact: Nancy Engel, 941-748-4842, nengel@manateeedc.com)

Full Article: <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/highlights-of-economic-and-business-growth-in-the-tampa-bay-region-news-briefs-20096255800>

FRI 06.26.09 Sanford lands sweet deals with dessert maker, aviation firm

Anjali Fluker, Orlando Business Journal

Seminole County can expect 200 new jobs within the next three years thanks to a dessert maker expanding in the area and an aviation firm entering the market. Sanford-based cheesecake maker The Father's Table Inc., which incorporated in 1998, is growing its operations with a nearly 94,000-square-foot manufacturing facility on East Lake Mary Boulevard near Orlando Sanford International Airport.

Full Article: http://orlando.bizjournals.com/orlando/stories/2009/06/29/story3.html?ana=e_ph

SUN 06.28.09 PGT host teachers from Suncoast Polytechnical High School

Press Release

School may be out for students across the state of Florida, but not for teachers at Suncoast Polytechnical High School (SPHS) in Sarasota. PGT Industries, a wholly owned subsidiary of PGT, Inc. (NASDAQ: PGTI), and one of the nation's largest manufacturers of custom windows and doors, hosted a group of teachers from SPHS this week to help them ensure real-world lessons are integrated into their classroom teaching.

Full Article: <http://www.1888pressrelease.com/pgt-hosts-teachers-from-suncoast-polytechnical-high-school-pr-129849.html>

General Manufacturing in the News

JUNE 2009

TUES 06.09.09 Manufacturing ranked #1 industry for economic prosperity

Deloitte & The Manufacturing Institute

Despite more than a year of bad news as the manufacturing sector continues to contract, a new annual index released today by Deloitte LLP and The Manufacturing Institute shows that Americans view manufacturing as the most important industry for a strong national economy. There is a wide perception gap, however, between the public's highly positive views of manufacturing's contributions to America's economic success and their negative views about pursuing a career in manufacturing.

Full Article: <http://sev.prnewswire.com/workforce-management/20090609/NY2958909062009-1.html>

FRI 06.12.09 Major organizations provide grants to gateway academy program

ThomasNet

Industries committed to development of skilled workforce and keeping America's manufacturing sector strong have given \$318,000 in sponsorship grants to SME Education Foundation. Funding will make it possible for secondary-school students to attend Foundation's Gateway Academies, which are summer camps where students explore careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Full article: <http://news.thomasnet.com/companystory/561890>

SAT 06.13.09 A hard-hit manufacturing industry looks forward in Minnesota

Liz Fedor, Star Tribune

As the financial meltdown spread across the globe last fall, some customers called Minnesota manufacturers to simply cancel their orders. "It was like somebody just turned the water off," recalls Bill Blazar of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. Now we've got a trickle going again, especially among our small and medium-sized manufacturers."

Full Article: <http://www.startribune.com/business/47951192.html?page=1&c=y>

June Green manufacturer considering a \$150 million industrial park in Clay county, Kentucky

Joe Cogliano, Manufacturing & Technology eJournal

An eco-friendly company that makes raw material and products out of trash says it is looking to build a \$150 million 'GreenPark' here and hire more than 1,400 workers. The state of Kentucky recently gave preliminary approval of \$42 million in tax incentives to Waste Not Technologies for the project, which would include about 800,000 square feet of buildings on a 230-acre site.

Full Article: <http://mfrtech.com/articles/2233.html>