

Tampa Bay News Briefs

Highlights of Economic and Business Growth in the Tampa Bay Region

TAMPA BAY, Fla., June 14, 2010/Businesswire/ -- News briefs concerning economic and business growth in the Tampa Bay region from the [Tampa Bay Partnership](#):

PRC LLC Hiring 110 for Tampa Bay Center

[PRC LLC](#), a provider of outsourced customer management, is looking to fill 110 positions in the next two months at its five-year-old West Coast Florida center in Tampa, where it currently employs more than 100. PRC manages customer communications via telephone, e-mail and interactive channels and is hiring due to the expansion of a program for a Fortune 100 technology company. The company is being assisted by the [Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corp.](#), [Workforce Florida](#), [Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance](#) and [Hillsborough County School District](#). (Contact: David Wylie, 954-693-4444, david.wylie@prcnet.com)

Calif.-Based Charter Jet Firm Sky King Lands in Tampa Bay

Charter jet service [Sky King Inc.](#) is in the process of relocating from Sacramento, Calif. to Tampa Bay and has leased 50,000 square feet of space at [Lakeland Linder Regional Airport](#) in Polk County. The company, which will operate an air charter service and conduct aircraft maintenance operations, says they will create up to 80 jobs with an estimated capital investment of \$15 million. Sky King's move from California is prompted by business shifting from the western states to east of the Mississippi River in the past several years. The company cited the appeal of the Lakeland location being centrally located between Tampa and Orlando. (Contact: Gregg Lukenbill, 888-759-5464, info@flyskyking.net)

Oak Hill Hospital Project Will Add 41 Jobs

An expansion at [Oak Hill Hospital](#) would create 41 new jobs and pump millions of dollars into the local economy according to a report from the [Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council](#). The hospital in Spring Hill is in the midst of a \$6.5 million expansion that will add 20 private rooms to the cardiac services unit and increase the number of patient beds to 234. The report, requested by the [Hernando County Office of Economic Development](#), said the project would create 12 jobs initially with 41 jobs by the end of the fifth year. The project is also responsible for 167 construction jobs, generating about \$3.9 million in additional personal income during construction and contributing about \$5.4 million to the gross county product in Hernando County. (Contact: Wren Krahl, 727-570-5151, wren@tbrpc.org)

Progress Energy Completes Clean Air Project

Cleaner air and fewer emissions are the result of [Progress Energy Florida's](#) recently completed improvements to the [Crystal River Energy Complex](#). The company's Crystal River Units 4 and 5 in [Citrus County](#) are now among the cleanest coal-burning plants in the country. Continuing Progress Energy's commitment to improving air quality, a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) system and scrubber began operating at the [Crystal River Energy Complex](#) on Unit 4 at the end of May, reducing emissions by more than 90 percent. The \$1.4 billion environmental investment in Crystal River Units 4 and 5 will allow the company to purchase less-expensive coal in addition to significantly reducing plant emissions. These improvements will generate significant fuel savings, including a projected fuel savings of up to \$10 million in 2010 and additional fuel savings in future years. (Contact: Ginger Caporal, 866-520-6397, Ginger.Caporal@pqnmail.com)

Quantum Marketing Inc. Expanding in Tampa Bay

In association with the [Lakeland Economic Development Council](#), the [Central Florida Development Council](#) announced the retention and expansion of [Quantum Marketing, Inc. \(QMI\)](#). Owned by Illinois Tool Works (ITW), QMI has manufactured automotive additives at their facility in Lakeland since 1986. Last year, ITW was considering consolidating QMI and a sister company located in California that manufactures a similar product. The LEDC and CFDC were able to assist the company to apply for state and local incentives, complete expedited permitting, and refer them to workforce partners for training and training grants, in the end convincing ITW that Lakeland was where the company needed to expand. As a result, QMI is committed to creating 30 new jobs paying 115% of the annual average wage over the next three years, and to investing \$3.5 million in their Lakeland facility. (Contact: Dan Shupsky 863-665-3338, www.qmiitw.com)

Tampa Bay Paper Maker Expansion Creates 25 Jobs

Paper manufacturer [Cellynne Corporation](#), one of Haines City's largest employers, is about to get even larger thanks to an expansion that helped create 25 jobs. The expansion brings their total square footage to over 500,000 and a total of 275 jobs. Headquartered in Haines City, Cellynne produces toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, facial tissues, and other household paper products. Cellynne Corporation has four strategically located state of the art manufacturing facilities in Haines City, Fla.; Henderson, Nev.; Green Bay, Wis. and Shenzhen, China. Business has been so good that Cellynne is now building a de-inking machine that takes recycled fiber, screens it, and uses it as a pulp-substitute – a way to create a more environmentally friendly product. (Contact: Mario Maltais, 800-443-6099, info@cellynne.com)

Ta Chen International Signs 10 year, \$65 Million Lease in Tampa Bay

[Ta Chen International, Inc.](#), a leading master distributor of stainless, aluminum and nickel alloy coils, sheets, plates, long products, tubes and PVFs, signed a 10 year agreement and has leased 140,000 square feet at First Park at Bridgewater in Lakeland in what appears to be the Tampa Bay region's largest lease so far this year. Ta Chen plans to relocate within four months from Davenport, Fla. to Lakeland. TCI's parent company is Ta Chen Stainless Pipe Ltd., which trades on the Taiwan Stock Exchange. (Contact: Tony Garmon, 863-420-8835, tony_garmon@tachen.com)

New Welding Facility at PHCC in Dade City

[Pasco-Hernando Community College](#) recently opened a new, state-of-the art welding facility on the East Campus in Dade City. The 5,000 square foot welding building has 16 self-ventilated booths for shielded metal arc, metal inert gas and tungsten inert gas welding; six oxy-fuel work stations; and an independent grinding room. The welding program currently has 17 students and a waiting list for future openings. The popularity of this program has not been impacted by the downturn in the economy because welders continue to be hired in the Tampa Bay area. According to the Labor Market Statistics of the [Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation](#), starting salaries for welders are in the mid-twenties with typical salaries between \$26,000 and \$32,000 per year. (Courtney Boettcher, Marketing Coordinator, 727-816-3738, boettcc@phcc.edu)

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