

## **Highlights of Economic and Business Growth in the Tampa Bay Region (Shorts)**

TAMPA BAY, Fla., April 6, 2004/PRNewswire/ -- Here are some shorts concerning the economic and business growth in the Tampa Bay Region from the Tampa Bay Partnership:

### **Tampa Bay's Office Market is in High Demand**

Tampa Bay's office market is "hot" and continues to outperform most others in the U.S. Pinellas County took the top spot nationally in the ranking of non-downtown office markets, and Tampa's downtown office market ranked No. 2 in the nation according to the Cushman & Wakefield Barometer, a projected ranking of commercial real estate market performance over the next two years. For more information, contact Sam Zein at 813-223-6300 or [sam\\_zein@cushwake.com](mailto:sam_zein@cushwake.com).

### **USF Entrepreneurship Program Ranked #1 in the Nation**

The Life Sciences Entrepreneurship program at the University of South Florida was named the number one specialty program in entrepreneurship in 2004 by the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE), which commended the program as a national model. The first place award recognized USF's innovative and nationally benchmarked research, education and training programs in life sciences entrepreneurship. For more information, contact Michelle Carlyon at 813-974-9082 or visit <http://www.entrepreneurship.usf.edu>.

### **Florida Tech Transfer Conference**

The Florida Research Consortium and the Tampa Bay Technology Forum announced they will be holding the first annual Florida Tech Transfer Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida, May 17 - 18, 2004. The conference will showcase emerging technologies and commercialization opportunities from the state's leading research universities in the areas of information technology, biotechnology and nanotechnology. For more information, visit <http://frc.accrisoft.com/techtransfer>.

## **Moffitt Teams with DNAPrint<sup>(tm)</sup> to Predict Patient Response to Chemotherapy**

The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute announced that it has formed a joint research program with the Sarasota-based DNAPrint(tm) Genomics, Inc. to develop and implement new clinical tests for predicting patient response to cancer chemotherapies. The collaboration will combine Moffitt oncologists, research scientists, mathematicians and software engineers with DNAPrint computer scientists, molecular biologists and population geneticists. For more information, E-mail [mediarelations@moffitt.usf.edu](mailto:mediarelations@moffitt.usf.edu) or call (813) 632-1478.

## **It Is Rocket Science!**

### **Largo Manufacturer Awarded 40 Free Hours with a Rocket Scientist.**

Modern Silicone of Largo, Florida contacted the Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program (S.A.T.O.P), with a technical problem -- manufacturing a silicon-cooking glove with velcro. The S.A.T.O.P. program, in partnership with NASA, recently accepted the challenge and offered 40 free hours of assistance with Boeing engineers to Modern Silicone. The S.A.T.O.P. program helps businesses solve technical challenges in the areas of mechanical, chemical, electronics, electrical, fluids, adhesives, robotics, manufacturing, environmental and materials. For more information, contact Bill Farragut of Pinellas County Economic Development at (727) 464-7353 or [bfarragu@pinellascounty.org](mailto:bfarragu@pinellascounty.org).

## **Tampa Electric, Dignitaries Celebrate a New Era of Power Production**

Tampa Electric recently dedicated its new state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly H.L. Culbreath Bayside Power Station. Praising Tampa Electric Co. for replacing an aging coal-fired power plant with a new and environmentally friendlier gas-fired facility, Governor Jeb Bush cited the new power plant as the kind that utilities must build to improve the quality of life for state residents and keep the economy growing. The \$750 million, 1800-megawatt Bayside Power Station, along with other environmental improvements, has dramatically reduced Tampa Electric's air emissions, making the company one of the cleanest utilities in the nation. For more information, visit [www.tampaelectric.com/environmental](http://www.tampaelectric.com/environmental) or contact Ross Bannister at (813-228-4945.)

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