

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

TAMPA BAY, Fla., June 8, 2004/PRNewswire/ -- Here are some shorts concerning the economic and business growth in the Tampa Bay Region from the Tampa Bay Partnership:

### **Financial Services Giant Announces Major Operations Center in Hillsborough County**

Depository Trust & Clearing Corp. (DTCC), the world's largest provider of technology infrastructure for financial institutions, announced it will locate a major operations center in Hillsborough County. DTCC will employ 500 high-tech workers by 2007 at an average annual salary of more than \$72,000. DTCC looked at 25 cities before selecting Tampa for the new operations center and DTCC Chairman and CEO Jill M. Considine stated "the choice for Florida became even more compelling by the teamwork exhibited by state and local officials, from Governor Bush and his staff to Enterprise Florida, Hillsborough County, mayor Tampa, and the Tampa Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100." For more information, Robin DeLaVergne, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce at 813-276-9435.

### **Florida High Tech Corridor to Recruit Recent Graduates**

A group representing the Florida High Tech Corridor Council will travel to New York City on June 15, 2004 to meet with 25 representatives from 15 New York Universities to recruit recent graduates for Florida high tech companies. The mission to New York is part of the council's effort to promote Florida as a destination for young workers to begin their career. The Florida High Tech Corridor Council is an economic development initiative of the University of South Florida (USF) and the University of Central Florida (UCF) designed to attract, retain and grow high tech industry in the 21-county region stretching from Tampa Bay through Metro Orlando and on to Volusia county and Florida's Space Coast on the Atlantic. For more information, contact Hugh Bleddyn at 407-538-2913 or visit [www.floridahightech.com](http://www.floridahightech.com).

### **Foreign Direct Investment Growing in Tampa Bay**

Sixty-two percent of Tampa Bay's foreign owned companies export outside the U.S. according to research by the Tampa Bay Partnership. The Foreign Direct Investment Survey identified 113 foreign owned companies from 19 nations, operating across 20 industries in the Tampa Bay region. The top investor nations identified in the study were Canada (24%), United Kingdom (17%), Germany (13%), France (11%), and Netherlands (7%). The top industry sectors for foreign owned firms in Tampa Bay were food and beverage, business services, packaging, building construction, computer technology. For more information on the Foreign Direct Investment Research or investment opportunities in the Tampa Bay region, contact Chris Steinocher at 813-878-2208 or E-mail at [info@tampabay.org](mailto:info@tampabay.org).

## **Research Shows Tampa Bay a Center for Healthcare and Medical Technology Excellence**

Recent research by the Tampa Bay Partnership revealed the collective size and scope of the health care and medical technology industry in the Tampa Bay region. Among the findings, Tampa Bay has:

- A nationally ranked top 20 cluster for medical device manufacturing
- One of 38 NCI designated Comprehensive Care Centers in the U.S.
- A top 60 public research university
- 12 research centers
- Over 50 hospitals, clinics & ambulatory care centers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest acute care public hospital in Florida
- 3 Top 100 Hospitals in the U.S. (*2003 U.S. News & World Report*)
- 3 medical schools
- Over 62,000 licensed nurses and doctors
- More than 10 educational facilities for healthcare professionals
- Two hospital transplant centers
- 13 teaching hospitals
- Florida's only College of Public Health

For details about the research study contact Stuart Rogel, Tampa Bay Partnership at 813-878-2208 or visit [www.TampaBay.org](http://www.TampaBay.org).

## **CHAMP Products Announces Expansion**

CHAMP Products, a Manatee County-based manufacturer of heat exchangers for buses, trucks and other mobile equipment announced their plans to expand from a 28,000 to 65,000 sq. ft. building. The company has grown from eight employees to 96 and estimates adding 10-15 new jobs per year to accommodate their growing business. Founded in New York in 1964, CHAMP Products relocated to Manatee County in 1988 and has seen a 25% increase in production in the past year, servicing such companies as Mercury Marine, Mack Trucks, Caterpillar, Kenworth, and Peterbilt. For more information, contact Richie Griffin, CHAMP Products, 941-727-1900 x307 or [www.champproducts.com](http://www.champproducts.com).

## **Sarasota's Florikan E.S.A. Wins National Product Innovation Award**

Sarasota-based Florikan E.S.A. won the 2004 New Product Award in the small business category from the National Professional Engineers in Industry division of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Florikan was honored for its Staged Nutrient Release and 3-Stage Controlled Release fertilizers. The products require fewer applications, reducing labor costs for plant growers and protecting the environment from excess runoff of nitrogen and phosphate. Additionally, Florikan recently received a national award from the American Nursery & Landscape Association and won Florida's Most Innovative Product Award in 2002 for its fertilizer products. For more information, visit [www.florikan.com](http://www.florikan.com).

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