



Ambassadors Update

February 2012

Expanding in MA

lifeIMAGE, a network for sharing medical information, has leased 13,600 SF at **Newton's** Gateway Center. The company has grown significantly in the past year and its network is now accessible to over 31,000 physicians from the nation's best medical centers. Click [here](#) to read more.

Mathworks Inc., the software developer and computing firm based in **Natick**, has leased 40,000 SF at Cochituate Place, nearly tripling its current space in the building. Mathworks employs 2,200 people in 15 countries and has openings for 200 positions in its Massachusetts HQ. Click [here](#) to read more.

Public Consulting Group, provider of management consulting and technological solutions to the public sector, has leased 24,764 SF of office space at 40 Broad Street in **Boston**. The space will support the firm's future growth plans in the city. Click [here](#) to read more.

Netwatch, an Irish company that offers property protection services, announced its launch into the US market with its offices in **Boston**. The firm has already won a number of contracts in Greater Boston, and expects to add 50 jobs over the next 18 months. Click [here](#) to read more.

Applachian Press, a printing company previously located in Lee, has leased 8,000 SF of building space giving life to an empty manufacturing plant in **Westfield**. The company expects to further expand and add jobs in the coming year. Click [here](#) to read more.

Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center board of directors gave final approval to a **\$14.6M** capital grant to fund the new **Massachusetts Biomanufacturing Center** in **Fall River**. The **32,000 SF** facility will house early stage life sciences companies and span four acres of city-donated land. Click [here](#) to read more.

ConforMIS Inc., a medical device company located in **Burlington**, has pulled in **\$89M** in a Series E round of funding. The funds will be used to support commercial expansion, manufacturing and R&D into new product lines, plus build out its manufacturing infrastructure. Click [here](#) to read more.

Tetraphase Pharmaceuticals, a **Cambridge**-based biomedical company, was awarded a **\$67M** grant from the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to develop drugs to do battle with drug resistant bacteria. Click [here](#) to read more.

Spin Transfer Technologies, a **Boston**-based tech start-up company, has raised **\$36M** in Series A funding. The raise was led by parent-company Allied Minds and Invesco Allied Management. Click [here](#) to read more.

Avaxia Biologics Inc., a **Lexington**-based biomedical company, has completed a **\$4.1M** Series A financing led by angel investors. The company specializes in the development of oral antibody drugs. Click [here](#) to read more.

Ambassadors @ Work



On February 21st, roughly 800 of the Boston area's entrepreneurs, students, investors, and businesspeople attended **Ruby Riot**, the city's largest startup networking party. Matt Lauzon, founder of Ruby Riot and Boston startup **Gemvara**, hosted the event and discussed the importance of giving back to the community with the event's theme, "pay it forward". Click [here](#) to read more.



The **Global Trade Summit 2012** will take place on April 3rd at **Brandeis University**. The Summit is designed to help companies identify and take advantage of international business opportunities, with a particular focus on emerging markets in Turkey, Brazil, India, and Israel. Click [here](#) for more information.

MassEcon is now accepting nominations for the **Fourth Annual Corporate Welcome Reception**, which will take place on April 26th at **Genzyme's** headquarters in Cambridge. If you know of companies that have moved to Massachusetts within the past 12 months or started as new ventures in the state over the past year, please contact [Sean Getchell](#) by March 10, or fill out the nomination form [here](#). The Corporate Welcome Reception is a great way to say thank you to these companies for investing in Massachusetts and to introduce them to the Massachusetts network. For information about last year's event, click [here](#).

The **Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce**, along with the **Federal Reserve Bank** and the **Commonwealth of Massachusetts**, are hosting a breakfast meeting on March 19th to discuss the benefits and best practices surrounding student internships. Governor Patrick will kick off the meeting by discussing the importance of retaining talent in the Commonwealth. For more information, please contact Patricia Lydon at Patricia.Lydon@boston.frb.org.

Manufacturing Sector a Bright Spot in MA Economy

According to a study by the **UMass Donahue Institute**, the manufacturing sector in Massachusetts advertised more job openings than any other industry last year, except for health care. Local manufacturers advertised nearly 73,000 jobs in 2011, up 40% from the previous year. The majority of openings came in areas such as sales and customer services, computer and information technology, and managerial positions. Click [here](#) to read more.

Economic Impact from Colleges and Universities Highest in Boston

According to a new report from **Westfield State University**, the Boston economy gets more impact from its colleges and universities than any other metropolitan area nationwide. The report combined various factors, such as the total economic spending of the region's colleges and universities, their per capita spending, the ripple effect throughout the economy of their spending, and the jobs that colleges and universities create. Higher education sustains 147,745 jobs in Greater Boston, which is 8.76 percent of the total workforce in the area. Click [here](#) to read more. To view the full report, click [here](#). Also, see a related [report](#) by **QS Top Universities** where Boston ranked third on the list of the Best Student Cities in the World 2012, behind Paris and London.

Biotechnology Sector Continues to Shine in MA

According to a report by the **Massachusetts Biotechnology Council**, Massachusetts continues to outpace the nation in terms of biotechnology research and development employment. On a per capita basis, Massachusetts far outshines the rest of the country in terms of funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Click [here](#) to see the report.

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