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Ambassadors Update



Expanding in Massachusetts

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Boston-based insurance company **Liberty Mutual** announced its plan to expand its **Back Bay headquarters** with a **25-story building**. According to Mayor Thomas Menino, the expansion will add another 600 permanent and 500 construction jobs. This headquarter expansion follows Liberty Mutual's 2008 construction of a 55,000 SF call center office in Springfield. Click [here](#) to read more.

International transportation company **CSX** plans to expand its **Worcester freight yard** by **28 acres**. The \$100 million plan is part of a private-public partnership to make the rail line between Worcester and Boston more open to commuter trains. Click [here](#) to read more.

The Perkins School for the Blind (Watertown) plans to improve its facilities with a new 3-story **55,000 SF** classroom building, in addition to a **98,000 SF** renovation. MassDevelopment has issued a \$30M tax-exempt bond on behalf of the Perkins school to help fund the growth. The expansion is expected to create more than 300 construction jobs. Click [here](#) to read more.

Secure data service provider **CoreSite** announced on February 4th the expansion of its data center in **Somerville, MA**. The project includes an additional **12,000 SF** of data center space to meet the needs of a growing customer base. The new space will be capable of cooling high performance computing environments and will feature access to CoreSite's Any2 Northeast Internet exchange. Click [here](#) to read more.

Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

Nexamp Inc., an energy and carbon solutions company headquartered in **North Andover**, secured a **\$20 million** deal to install four megawatts of solar generation capacity on a dozen state water and waste-water treatment plants. The work will bring over 100 construction and engineering jobs to New England. Click [here](#) to read more.

Westford-based BioBehavioral Diagnostics, a developer of a diagnostic tool for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, raised **\$10 million** in venture capital to be used for expansion of its sales and marketing efforts. Founded in 2006, the company was originally located in Cambridge, MA. Click [here](#) to read more.

General Compression Inc., a **Newton-based** company developing energy storage technology, reported it landed **\$17 million** in a Series A round of venture funding. General Compression received the funding from Santa Monica, Calif.-based US Renewables Group and Charlotte, N.C.-based Duke Energy Corp. The company reports the funding will be used to develop its first commercial unit and to pursue other storage projects. Click [here](#) to read more.

Western Massachusetts Electric Co. (WMECO) recently announced it will develop the first utility owned solar farm in Massachusetts. William Stanley Business Park in **Pittsfield**, co-owned by WMECO and the Pittsfield Economic Development



Advanced protective material manufacturer **Chase Corporation** will be expanding its **Westwood** operations after signing a new **20,000 SF** lease. The facility, in addition to housing Chase's research and development, will host its sales and administrative resources, which will relocate from the company's Albany, New York, and Taunton locations. Click [here](#) to read more.

Epsilon Data Management will be expanding its operations in **Wakefield, MA**. The marketing services firm has leased an additional **22,000 SF** of space at 601 Edgewater Dr., totaling its office space there to 135,000 SF. Click [here](#) to read more.

Authority, is the 8 acre site chosen for the solar farm. WMECO looks to commence construction this spring. Click [here](#) to read more.

Framingham-based office supplier Staples Inc., has launched a new technology division called **Staples Technology Solutions**. The new division is designed to service businesses with a one vendor-neutral source for all office products and technology supplies. Some services include technology consulting, end-user remote support, and sale of everyday desktop technologies. Click [here](#) to read more.

Ambassadors @ Work

On February 23rd, the **Massachusetts It's All Here** campaign launched **Start here** with a ceremony at the **Cambridge Innovation Center**. **Start here** is a statewide collaboration with partners including, MassChallenge, Flybridge Capital Partners, the New England Venture Capital Association, and the Mass Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Governor Deval Patrick along with 300 others gathered to celebrate the Massachusetts spirit of entrepreneurship, the MassChallenge portal launch, and the Innovation Center expansion. MassChallenge, the world's largest startup competition, launched a portal to serve as a resource for entrepreneurs. As part of the **Start here** launch, state officials and representatives from venture capital firms will hold office hours at the Cambridge Innovation Center in the coming months. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Investing in the Future's Innovators

Intel Corporation announced it is heading a **\$3.5 billion** in private investment in US high-tech companies over the next two years called the **Invest in America Alliance**. The alliance will look to create jobs in the cleantech, biotech, and healthcare sectors. Also, 17 companies have pledged to hire 10,500 recent college graduates in engineering and computer science. **Microsoft, GE, and Google, along with Hopkinton-based EMC,** are some of the Massachusetts-based companies that have joined the hiring pledge. The program could be a great boost to the growth of Massachusetts technology companies. Click [here](#) to read more.

Investing in the Life Sciences

The **Massachusetts Life Sciences Center** board approved spending of **\$5.5 million** to launch its **2010 Accelerator Loan Program**, which gives working capital to early stage biotechnology and medical device companies in Massachusetts. The Life Sciences Center also recently awarded the **Worcester Polytechnic Institute a \$6.6 million grant** to develop its life sciences at Gateway Park. The grant will support the construction of a 10,000 SF facility that will provide hands-on biomanufacturing training, an 80,000 SF life sciences facility, as well as a new incubator for Massachusetts Biomedical Initiatives. Click [here](#) to read more about the grant awarded to WPI.



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