



Ambassadors Update

February 2013

Expanding in MA

Columbia Tech, an engineering and manufacturing company in Worcester, is expanding to a new 68,000 SF facility in **Westborough**. This new space is aimed to support growing sales in the homeland security, semiconductor, data storage, medical device and alternative energy markets. For full article click [here](#).

Leica BioSystems, a cancer diagnostic company headquartered in Germany, has announced an expansion of their R&D facility by the end of 2013. They are currently housed in a temporary facility in **Danvers** and have locations in Europe, Australia and Asia. For full article click [here](#).

Johnson & Johnson announced the planned opening of The Boston Innovation Center in **Cambridge** run by former director of the MIT Cancer Institute Robert Urban. The Cambridge office will enhance partnerships between universities and companies in the medical device, pharmaceutical and consumer health care fields. For full article click [here](#).

UMass Lowell opened a new robotics testing facility - the New England Robotics Validation and Experimentation Center (NERVE). With a growing state robotics industry, NERVE aims to serve local robotics companies that would normally go out of state for similar testing facilities. For full article click [here](#).

Construction was completed this month on the **Albert Sherman Center** at the **UMass Medical School campus in Worcester**. This LEED Gold certified biomedical research facility built by **Suffolk Construction** will serve as a main hub on campus. For full article click [here](#).

Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

Chlemsford-based **Mercury Systems Inc.** won a three year contract worth up to \$17M to supply advanced mixed signal digital receivers for electronic defense applications. For full article click [here](#).

UMass Lowell and the **US Army Natick Labs** are partnering to develop new and improved outerwear, equipment, and energy sources for American troops. For full article click [here](#).

Cambridge beauty products company **Living Proof** secured \$30M in funding and launched its first national marketing campaign with part owner and spokesperson Jennifer Aniston this month. The campaign kicked off this week with advertisements featuring Aniston in beauty publications. For full article click [here](#).

Acme Packet Inc., the **Bedford**-based voice, data and communications services company, is releasing a new real-time monitoring device called Palladion 3.0. This release comes during their \$2.1B acquisition by Oracle. For full article click [here](#).

Littleton networking technology firm **BTI Systems** closed its series C round funding with \$10M led by Bain Capital Ventures this month. The funds will be used to launch a new offering, Intelligent Cloud Connect, that addresses performance issues related to the increased demand for cloud services. For full article click [here](#).

Boston Lithium-ion battery maker **Cabot Corporation** announced the release of a new additive for lithium batteries that make them more efficient and cheaper to manufacture. Cabot notes that this new

San Jose company **Pay Pal** has set up shop in the Financial District in **Boston**. Paypal executives say the location is ideal with plenty of space for a cubicle-free work environment as well as access to talent from some of the country's best universities. For full article click [here](#).

additive could reduce development costs for electric vehicles. For full article click [here](#).

Mobile payment company **LevelUp** has reached 1 million users nationwide. That's a 100 percent increase in the last four months for this **Boston** company. A spokesperson from their parent company **SCVNGR** attributes the growth to their attempt to make mobile payments mainstream. For full article click [here](#).

Ambassadors @ Work



Thank you to **Genzyme** for hosting and to **BioMed Reality** for sponsoring the **Fifth Annual Corporate Welcome Reception** in April. Celebrate new businesses in Massachusetts by nominating companies to be recognized at this reception where new companies are introduced to the amazing Massachusetts network. In order to be eligible, companies must have moved to Massachusetts within the past 12 months or started as new ventures in the state over the past year. To nominate a company, visit our [website](#).

Governor Patrick and business and government leaders went on a four day Massachusetts trade mission to **Colombia** at the beginning of the month. They met with the Colombian counterparts to discuss collaboration between the state and country in industries such as security/safety, technology, life sciences/biomedical, energy, water treatment and transportation/infrastructure. The US is currently Colombia's largest trading partner and over 250 US companies have presence in Colombia. For full article click [here](#).

Congratulations to **Harpoon Brewery** which just opened their new Beer Hall and Visitor's Center in the Seaport District. Within the 6,000 square foot hall are communal tables, a long bar and 60 taps with a view of Boston as well as the brewery operations below. For more information click [here](#). Also, for a video on what's been going on behind the scenes with the Harpoon team click [here](#).

Looking to capture the growth of life science companies, the **City of Worcester** on **March 13** will be showcasing its assets as a rich life science region to corporate location advisers. Home to 10 universities with synergies between the private sector and research institutions, A-team speakers from **WPI, UMass Medical School, Tufts Veterinary School, and AbbVie** (formerly Abbott Bioresearch Center) will be on hand to their prospective. For more information and to register click [here](#).

MassTech's annual *Index of the Innovation Economy*

Robotics and Big Data are emerging as economic drivers in MA according to MassTech's annual *Index of the Innovation Economy*. Also in the report are details on the changing capital landscape noting that there is an increase in angel investing and that although Massachusetts is still at the top of industry funding for R&D, other states are beginning to catch up. For the full report click [here](#).

Preview of MIT Report on Manufacturing

MIT released *A Preview of the MIT Taskforce on Innovation and Production Reports* to be later released in two books Fall 2013. The report suggests that a renewed commitment to development in manufacturing, through creative new forms of collaboration, can spur innovation and growth in the United States as a whole. For the preview report click [here](#).

Massachusetts Economy Outpacing the US

According to recent report from MassBenchmarks, the Massachusetts Economy is outpacing the US economy as a whole. The report also suggests that the Commonwealth is positioned for faster growth in 2013 despite recent setback such as the faltering European economy, a general decrease in merchandise exports and policy uncertainty. For the full report click [here](#).