

Please add maed@massecon.com to your safe senders list. If you are having trouble viewing this email, please click on this link.



Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development

March 2007

#### Newsletter Sponsors



[Sign up](#)  
[Forward to a friend](#)  
[Unsubscribe](#)  
[Web version](#)  
[massecon.com](http://massecon.com)

### Ambassador A-List New Products & Funding

**Optim, Inc.** of **Sturbridge** was awarded a **\$499,875** contract by the Department of Homeland Security to supply LED fiberscopes to be used to inspect for contraband.

**CytRx Corporation** of **Worcester**, a developer of molecular medicines for the treatment of metabolic diseases, won a **\$222,000** grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to develop a treatment of type 2 diabetes and obesity.

**Protonex Technology Corp**, which provides mobile fuel cell power systems, has just received a **\$3.5 million** contract with the **US Army Research Office**. The **Southborough** company will use the contract over the next twelve months to develop lighter, more efficient fuel cell power sources.

**American Science and Engineering Inc.** won two large contracts in March totaling over **\$30 million** for the Billerica based company. The first, a **\$17.5 million** contract from the US Government, will continue development on the Z Backscatter Vans, a device allowing for quick security inspections, and the second, **\$13 million** from **NATO**, will be applied to development of vehicle and parcel inspection and screening systems at strategic security checkpoints.

### Expanding in Massachusetts

**Rochester Electronics LLC** plans to open a new **100,000 SF** warehouse next to its **Newburyport** headquarters. The company, which makes and sells replacement semiconductors for discontinued products, also plans to hire a few dozen workers later this year.

**D3 Logic Inc.**, which handles digital printing and direct mail for businesses, is expanding into the Boston area. The Providence, R.I. based firm has opened a new **40,000 SF** warehouse in **Canton**.

During the month of April, **Adidas AG** is moving its financial services sector from Portland, Oregon to **Canton**. The branch will operate with subsidiary Reebok International Ltd. at this location.

**Nuvera Fuel Cells, Inc.** an energy firm located in **Cambridge**, has received **\$5,000,000** in financing from **MassDevelopment** and the **Massachusetts Technology Collaborative**. Nuvera plans to construct and outfit its new **110,864 SF headquarters** in **Billerica** by June, 2007 and **hire 250 high-tech workers** during the next five years; 10% of these hires will be from **Billerica** and the **Merrimack Valley Region**.

### Ambassadors @ Work

**The Berkshire Economic Development Corporation** has spearheaded the development of a new plan to revitalize the economy of the Berkshires. The **Berkshire Blueprint** brings together two initiatives: the **Berkshire Strategy Project** and the **Creative Economy Strategy Project**. The **Berkshire Blueprint** will provide the Berkshires with a plan to encourage traditional industries, while also integrating and focusing attention on the new creative cluster. For more information, [click here](#).

Under the umbrella of the **Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development**, the Commonwealth is embarking on an economic development marketing campaign. Incorporating the *Massachusetts It's All Here* theme, the campaign will work towards accomplishing three goals: "de-bunking" the myths of Massachusetts; educating our target audience about Massachusetts' incentives, services, and programs; and promoting the **Business Resource Team**. Distribution channels will include paid media, special events and tradeshow

Massachusetts will have a strong presence at this year's **CoreNet Spring Summit** in Denver. The **CoreNet Spring Summit** brings together national site selection consultants and corporate real estate executives. Preparation is underway for a Massachusetts booth at the tradeshow, and **Team New England**, a six-state business attraction effort, will be hosting a VIP reception.

The **Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council** has released a promotional DVD which is available on their [website](#). The video discusses the **advantages of living and working in the Merrimack Valley**, and features Chris Perley of **Wyeth Pharmaceuticals**, the Presidents of **Northern Essex Community College** and **Middlesex Community College**, and other civic and business leaders.

### Massachusetts Ranked #1 Economy Among All Fifty States

*The 2007 State New Economy Index*, which measures the economic health of each state by a host of key economic indicators, ranked Massachusetts the number one innovation economy in the country. Massachusetts scored higher than all other states in categories such as, educated workforce, venture capital, and the number of technology jobs; it was also the highest New England state in the number of initial public offerings. To find out more, visit *The Information Technology & Innovation Foundation's* [website](#).

### Three Massachusetts Colleges Place High in Technology License Earnings

The **University of Massachusetts**, **Harvard University**, and the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, all rank among the top twelve in the nation for money earned from technology licenses in 2005. UMass' \$28.3 million in revenue was the 11th highest amount in the nation, according to figures reported to the Association of University Technology Managers. Harvard, which earned slightly less than \$28 million, had the 12th highest take, and **MIT** did better than both, bringing in nearly \$40 million, the eighth-highest amount in the country.

If you have information for this newsletter, contact Joey Giovino at 781.489.6262 or [jgiovino@massecon.com](mailto:jgiovino@massecon.com)

Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development (MAED)

892 Worcester Street . Wellesley, MA 02482 . 781.489.6262 . 781.489.6263 (fax) . [www.massecon.com](http://www.massecon.com)

MAED is a private, non-profit partnership of business industry leaders and government dedicated to the economic growth of the Commonwealth.