

January 2010

If you are having trouble viewing this email, please [click here](#).**Ambassadors Update**

Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

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

FloDesign Wind Turbine, of **Wilbraham**, a developer of high-efficiency shrouded wind turbines through the application of mature aerospace technologies, recently closed a **\$34.5M** Series B financing round. Following the financing round, FloDesign hired Lars Andersen as its new Chief Executive Officer. FloDesign plans to transition from a research and development organization to a leading renewable technology manufacturing company. Click [here](#) to read more.

The **Massachusetts Clean Energy Center** is awarding **\$2.5M** in grants to **20 wind energy projects**. The funding, part of the Commonwealth Wind Community-Scale Wind Initiative, is being directed to communities, educational institutions, public and private institutions, and the MBTA. Among recipients are the Town of Milton, Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative, Camelot Wind, and the Masonic Health System of MA. Click [here](#) for the full story.

Westford-based LightLab Imaging Inc., which aims to change the way doctors study and treat heart disease, has been awarded **\$188,000** from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Initiative. In the fourth quarter of the 2009, LightLab added 5,000SF of engineering space at its Westford complex and a dozen employees. The Westford company expects to add another 20 to 30 employees in 2010. LightLab's technology, which was invented at MIT, uses light to create images of the arteries in the heart. Click [here](#) for the full story.

Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc. of Watertown, has entered into a research collaboration and licensing deal with Japanese biopharmaceutical Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co. Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, a private RNA-interference platform development company, will receive **\$4M** upfront as part of the collaboration. Further research funding and milestone payments related to drug delivery systems will result in up to **\$120M**. The international collaboration may lead to a broader drug platform and the development of another 10 new targets for the pharmaceutical company. Click [here](#) for the full story.

Bedford-based MicroChips Inc. has recently raised **\$16.5M** in venture capital. The company plans to use the funding to advance its diabetes and osteoporosis programs. Investors in MicroChips included Flybridge Capital Partners of Boston. MicroChips technology was first developed at MIT and helps to control the delivery of drugs. Click [here](#) for the full story.

Expanding in Massachusetts

MathWorks Inc., which provides software for technical computing and model-based design, purchased a **170,000SF** office building in Natick. The newly purchased building is located in the same Apple Hill complex as the company's headquarters. MathWorks also plans to construct a fourth building in the complex to create a campus for the company. The Natick expansion is expected to create hundreds of new jobs. Click [here](#) for the full story.

The **Cambridge Innovation Center** is expanding its Kendall Square office space for startups, by adding a net of **42,000SF**. The center will build out and occupy the majority of the new square footage in long-term leases, which it will uniquely design for startups in order to accommodate more workers. The center has also renewed its lease on its existing 37,000SF office space for another 10 years. Click [here](#) to read more.

BioSurfaces Inc., a medical device company that uses biomaterial technologies for arterial disease, infection prevention, and wound management, expanded its office/lab space by over **5,000SF**. The research firm has leased its new space in the **Ashland Technology Centre**. BioSurfaces decided to expand within Ashland, where it was founded in 2003. Click [here](#) for the full story.

Cardiorobotics Inc., headquartered in Rhode Island, recently expanded to Massachusetts with a **14,500SF** lease at 475 Paramount Drive in **Raynham**. The medical device start-up is developing robotic technologies for use in a wide range of surgical and interventional applications, including minimally invasive cardiac surgery. Cardiorobotics, founded in 2005, also secured **\$5M** in venture capital funding this month. Click [here](#) to read more.

Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum has unveiled plans to double its size with a new **70,000SF** wing. The four-story wing will be designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano and is expected to cost \$118M. The expansion, which includes a music hall, exhibition gallery for temporary shows, and education facilities, is necessary to accommodate the

museum's now 200,000 annual visitors. Click [here](#) to read more.

Ambassadors @ Work

Planning is now underway for participation in the **CoreNet Global Summit** in New Orleans on April 18-20, and the **Bio International Convention** in Chicago on May 3-6. Economic development representatives from six New England states will be hosting a booth at the CoreNet Summit, as part of the **Team New England** initiative, managed by **Northeast Utilities**. As of now, participants for the Massachusetts economic development booth at the Bio International Convention are **MassDevelopment**, **EDC of Western Mass**, **MOITI**, and **MassEcon**.

The state is bringing economic recovery goals regionally, with its first **Regional Economic Summit** on January 29th in Leominster. **Al Cotton** of **Nypro**, a MassEcon Ambassador company, is leading a working group at the summit to explore challenges, opportunities, and next steps for manufacturers looking to compete globally.



Mass Reaching Out Globally

In the wake of the devastating Haiti earthquake, Massachusetts companies and institutions are joining together in relief efforts. National Grid, a major utility company in the region, donated \$100,000 to the American Red Cross, and is matching all employee donations. MIT held a four-day brainstorming workshop aimed at developing innovative technologies to alleviate the crisis. Boston based Oxfam America, in addition to raising \$3 million, has committed a staff of 200 to the region and an emergency specialist team of 15. Other companies, including Watertown's Tufts Health Plan Foundation, are supporting Boston based Partners In Health, which has been working in Haiti for over 20 years. Click [here](#) to read about more efforts.

Industry to Watch

Nanotechnology-based manufacturing is a growing industry, sparking an increasing worker demand in Massachusetts. Two of the nation's four nanomanufacturing science and engineering centers funded by the National Science Foundation are located in New England. One center is based at the UMass Amherst, while the other is a conglomerate including Northeastern University and UMass Lowell. Researchers are developing standardized manufacturing processes, allowing more nanomanufacturing jobs to be attainable without technical degrees. Local colleges are showing a rise in interest for nanomanufacturing training offerings to students. Click [here](#) to learn more.

AGC of Massachusetts
THE ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIAN & METALLURGICAL ENGINEERS

Massachusetts
It's all here.®

[click here to become a sponsor](#)

MassEcon
892 Worcester Street
Wellesley, MA 02482
Phone: (781) 489-6262
Fax: (781) 489-6263
www.massecon.com

If you have information for this newsletter, contact Rob Anderson at 781.489.6262 or randerson@massecon.com

The Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development is a private, non-profit partnership of business and government dedicated to the economic growth of the Commonwealth.