

May - June 2010

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Ambassadors Update



Expanding in Massachusetts

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A123 Systems is relocating its headquarters from Watertown to **Waltham**, where the company signed a **10-year 88,000SF** lease. The lithium ion battery maker has planned to expand in Massachusetts since receiving a \$5M forgivable loan from the Clean Energy Center in April. More than **250 jobs** are expected to be created as part of the four year, **\$80M** expansion. Click [here](#) to read more.

Bain Capital announced it will move from Huntington Ave. to the **John Hancock Tower** in the fall of 2011. Bain Capital signed a **208,000SF** lease, expanding the company's capacity by **92,000SF** and increasing the Hancock Tower's occupancy to 95%. Click [here](#) to read more.

Lawrence-based organic food maker, **Ian's Natural Foods**, is moving its production facility from Revere to a new **33,000SF** site in **Framingham**. The move will **double** the company's storage and production space, allowing for double productivity. Click [here](#) to read more.



Microsoft's New England Research and Development (NERD) has leased and will be renovating **113,000 SF** of office space at One Cambridge Center in **Kendall Square**. Microsoft will use the new space to house the majority of its 500 local R&D employees and expand its headcount. Click [here](#) to read more.

Lilliputian Systems, a developer of portable products for consumer electronic devices, is significantly expanding its **Wilmington** manufacturing facility. The company is utilizing the

Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

Constant Contact, the **Waltham**-based online marketing software provider for small organizations, acquired **California-based NutshellMail** for an undisclosed sum. The acquisition will enable Constant Contact to expand its social media marketing tools. The co-founders of NutshellMail are expected to lead Constant Contact's Bay Area office, which is slated to open later this year. Click [here](#) to read more.

The **Massachusetts Life Science Center** has awarded three **\$500,000** grants to **Boston Biochem Inc.**, the **Department of Defense**, and the **Department of Energy**. The majority of the grant money will be used to build a new R&D laboratory in Massachusetts, creating a total of **34 new jobs** in Massachusetts. Click [here](#) to read more.

Cambridge-based **Addgene**, a non-profit repository for recombinant DNA, announced it will distribute **\$60,000** in awards to help fund academic research. Its **Innovation Awards Program** will reward laboratories helping to modernize the way the scientific community shares information and resources. Click [here](#) to read more.

Thermo Fisher Scientific announced it has signed an agreement to buy reagents manufacturer **Fermentas International Inc.** for **\$260M**. The acquisition of Ontario-based Fermentas will allow Thermo Fisher to better meet the demands of cellular and molecular biologists, accelerating its research and improving its results.

help of a low-cost **\$5M** loan issued by **MassDevelopment**, from its Emerging Technology Fund, and the **Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC)**. Click [here](#) to read more.

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Tesaro Inc., a **Boston**-based biotechnology company focused on potential cancer drugs, officially launched on May 26, 2010 with **\$60M** in funding commitments. The funding includes a \$20M series A round backed by **New Enterprise Associates** and members of Tesaro's management team. Click [here](#) to read more.

Ambassadors @ Work

Coordinated by the **Massachusetts Life Sciences Center**, members of the **Massachusetts Business Resource Team** hosted a booth at the **BIO International Convention** in Chicago in May. Promoting Massachusetts were staffers from **MassEcon**, **MassDevelopment**, **Berkshire Economic Development Council**, **Western MA Economic Development Council**, the **Boston Redevelopment Authority**, and the **SouthCoast Development Partnership**. While in Chicago, MassEcon also hosted a dinner reception for site location consultants and Chicago business executives. The dinner's theme, *Grow here: Clean & Green Technology in Massachusetts*, featured a presentation from Art Robert, Industry Director at the Massachusetts Office of Business Development.

On May 19th, MassEcon welcomed five national site location consultants to Massachusetts as part of the *ReadyMass* initiative, a program showcasing Massachusetts as a premier business location. MassEcon members, regional and local partners, and private sector Ambassadors contributed in hosting the consultants. Hosts included executives from **Citizens Bank**, **Western Mass Electric Co**, **Cutler Associates**, **City of Boston**, **Microsoft**, **Boston Coach**, **The Kraft Group**, and **Zipcar**. The three-day ReadyMass agenda included a welcome reception at the Liberty Hotel with **Secretary Greg Bialecki**, a roundtable discussion of business resources at Microsoft's NERD Center, and a lunch with college presidents. The *ReadyMass* visit introduced the consultants – who are influential in advising companies on where to locate – to the range of statewide assets for business growth. Go to www.massecon.com/readymass for more.



June marks Innovation Month in Mass

Massachusetts Gains 19,100 Jobs

April marked Massachusetts's largest over-the-month job gain in 17 years, reported by the **Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development**. The **19,100 jobs added** were based in the professional, scientific and business services, and construction sectors. The unemployment rate dropped from **9.3% to 9.2%**, which is significantly lower than the national unemployment rate of **9.9%**. The newly created jobs bring the job count in Massachusetts to approximately 3.2M. Click [here](#) to read more.

Manufacturing Initiatives

On May 21st, the Patrick-Murray Administration launched the **Advanced Manufacturing Initiative**, a public-private collaboration throughout the manufacturing sector, designed to support job creation, export growth, innovation, and economic recovery. The Governor also announced a new loan program from **MassDevelopment** - the **Manufacturing Innovation Initiative (MI2)**, a multi-tiered loan program to help manufacturers invest in innovation, upgrade facilities, and adopt advanced production practices. Manufacturing is the sixth largest employer in Massachusetts, accounting for over 253,000 jobs. Click [here](#) to read more.



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