



MassEcon

Location is everything.

In Brief



Ambassadors Update

March 2013

Expanding in MA

Miami company **CareCloud**, a provider of cloud based electronic health record software, has opened a new office in the **Boston Innovation District**. CareCloud's software enables doctors to move and view medical records stored in the cloud to virtually any device and any platform. For full article click [here](#).

Libratone, a manufacturer of high end wireless speakers from Denmark, set up shop in **Framingham** this month. This new location is part of a series of expansions including a new office in San Francisco and adding Audi as a retail partner. For full article click [here](#).

Science and innovation center **TechSandBox**, announced its official launch and opening in **Southborough** through partnership with Becker College. TechSandBox intends to bring venture capital and startups to the MetroWest region, and they will be opening shop in May. For full article click [here](#).

The Canadian government launched a business accelerator program called **CTA Boston**. The program began this month with eight companies hoping to rub shoulders with entrepreneurs, tech executives, and venture capitalists located in the **Cambridge Innovation Center**. For full article click [here](#).

Israeli mobile app company **Zappix** moved its headquarters from Israel to **Burlington** after closing a round of funding with Kormeli. The app, now launched in New England, allows users to bypass large voice menus when calling companies and instead view them as a menu on their smart phone. For full article click [here](#).

Stay tuned for grocery store chain **Wegmans** announcement for its planned opening in **Boston** at the **Fenway**. This is part of CEO Danny Wegman's plan to move into urban areas and not be exclusive to the suburbs. For full article click [here](#).

Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

UMass has awarded **\$25,000** to each of **eight technology projects** that are being driven by faculty on four UMass campuses - **Amherst, Boston, Lowell** and **Worcester**. To date, the fund has backed a total of 74 projects, which have resulted in commercial licenses and patents and the creation of successful start-ups. For full article click [here](#).

Wyss Institute of Boston gets **\$9.4M** contract from DARPA to develop blood cleansing technology to treat blood-stream infections commonly found in soldiers wounded in combat. The continued funding from DARPA has aided the institute in the development of this technology and moved them closer to human trials. For full article click [here](#).

Israeli cloud technology firm **Nipendo** secured **\$8M** in series B funding and has a planned opening for US headquarters in **Burlington**. Nipendo's platform is already used by big major companies such as Pfizer, HP, Lilly, IBM and Office Depot. For full article click [here](#).

Weston pharmaceutical company **Biogen Idec** received approval from the FDA for the first ever pill to treat multiple sclerosis. Analysts say that the pill Tecfidera could be one of the top selling prescription medications by the end of the decade. For full article click [here](#).

AppNeta, a **Boston**-based provider of cloud-delivered software, raised **\$16M** in Series C round led by investors including Bain Capital Ventures. AppNeta's software aims to assist IT professionals in rapidly troubleshooting network issues. AppNeta has over 2,000 corporate clients to date. For full article click [here](#).

Southboro-based **SynapDx**, which is developing an early detection blood-based test for autism spectrum disorder, has received a significant undisclosed

Jet Blue just announced the expansion of non-stop air service between **Boston** and **Houston**. The airline will begin the new direct route twice daily beginning in July 2013. This is the first ever direct connection between the Logan and George W. Bush airports. For full article click [here](#).

investment from The Kraft Group, augmenting funding from other investors. The funding will support further studies of the test, which aims to identify children with autism at an earlier age. For full article click [here](#).

Ambassadors @ Work

On March 28, the **Museum of Science** was the venue for a gathering of impassioned fans of Boston-Cambridge collaboration to promote talent retention for the Greater Boston region. Convened by City Councillors Tito Jackson of Boston and Leland Cheung of Cambridge, and incubated by the World Class Cities Partnership, the group came together to hear myths debunked, data presented, and to formulate solutions. Follow the conversation on [Twitter](#) at [#MassTalent](#), and visit Global Business Hub for [full story](#).

The annual gaming conference **PAX East** was held at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center March 22-March 24 drawing approximately 75,000 attendees. More than 40 Massachusetts companies and organizations were in attendance. Quincy based Irrational Games and Boston company Turbine emerged as focal points with the highly anticipated release of games from both companies. For full article click [here](#).

Massachusetts Posts Job Gains

Massachusetts has surpassed pre-recession job levels according to a report by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. The unemployment rate in the Commonwealth is now at 6.5% thanks to the 57,600 jobs added over the past year. The majority of job growth came from the professional, scientific and business services sectors. For full report click [here](#).

State Investment in Life Science Reaping Dividends

Northeastern University released Life Sciences Innovation as a Catalyst for Economic Development: The Role of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center. The report provides an independent evaluation of the 10-year Massachusetts Life Sciences Initiative and the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center charged with the responsibility of carrying out its mission. The initiative was established in July 2008 by Governor Patrick's Administration to encourage the growth of discovery and production in the life sciences. Click for full report [here](#).

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