

APRIL 2019



IN BRIEF

MAKING **MOVES** IN MASSACHUSETTS

Expanding in MASS



LeanIX, an enterprise software company with offices in **Boston** and Germany, will be doubling its headcount in Boston to **40 employees** by end of year. Read more [here](#).



Jack's Abby Brewing Company opened a **new taproom** inside **Boston's North Station**. Read more [here](#).



Doble Engineering Company signed a **nearly 80K SF** lease in **Marlborough**. With plans to expand, the building will eventually serve as the company's headquarters. Read more [here](#).



Prodrive, a Dutch robotics company, plans to locate its U.S. headquarters in **more than 53K SF** in **Canton** this September. Read more [here](#).



Cambridge-based gene-therapy company **Bluebird Bio** plans to expand its **Kendall Square** headquarters with a **267K SF** sub-lease. Read more [here](#).



Boston-based, **Workbar** is adding two more locations to its local chain of co-working spaces in **Boston** and **Norwood**. Read more [here](#).

NEW Products & funding



CollegeVine, a **Cambridge-based** education technology startup, secured **\$24 million** as it thinks about offering its services to employers as an employee benefit. Read more [here](#).



Boston-based restaurant management software developer, **Toast, Inc.**, secured **\$250 million** and plans to add 1,000 employees by the end of the year in sales and marketing, R&D, and customer success. Read more [here](#).



Boston-based ezCater Inc., has become Boston's latest tech **unicorn** after securing **\$150 million** in its latest investment round, bringing its valuation to **\$1.25 billion**. Read more [here](#).



Cambridge-based quantum computing startup **Zapata Computing**, one of the first users of Cirq (Google's new open-source software framework for quantum computing), secured **\$21 million**. Read more [here](#).



Video conferencing startup, **Owl Labs** in **Boston**, secured **\$15 million** to speed up the manufacturing of its video conference camera to meet increased demand, grow its headcount, and expand globally. Read more [here](#).



Labster, a Danish company with its U.S. headquarters in **Somerville**, secured **\$21 million** to grow its Somerville office which currently houses 23 full-time employees. Read more [here](#).



Boston-based Affectiva, a developer of human perception AI software, secured **\$26 million** to develop an AI solution that can read people's emotions and cognitive states. Read more [here](#).



After securing a **\$100 million investment**, Regenerex LLC, which has been previously based in Louisville, Kentucky, is re-opening as **Talaris Therapeutics** in **Boston**. The company will operate jointly in Boston and Kentucky. Read more [here](#).

Ambassadors @work



NAIOP is partnering with Wentworth Institute of Technology to offer a two part **Introduction to Construction Management** course on May 10 and 17. The course is designed for real estate professionals with little or no prior construction management knowledge. Read more [here](#).



MassMEDIC is partnering with DeviceTalks to highlight the Massachusetts medical device ecosystem at **DeviceTalks Boston** on June 8-9. Read more [here](#).

On May 14, join **NAIOP** to hear from **Bill Cummings**, founder of **Cummings Properties**, for a discussion on his career, philanthropic efforts, and new memoir. Register [here](#).

Sasaki Foundation

The **Sasaki Foundation** funds a six-week high school **internship program** during July and August that offers young students the opportunity to explore architecture and design at Sasaki. Read more [here](#).



CITY AWAKE

City Awake is now accepting event and venue proposals for the **2019 Fierce Urgency of Now Festival** which partners Boston businesses and organizations to highlight the experiences, challenges, and opportunities for people of color in the Greater Boston Area. Read more [here](#).

Boston Real Estate Times

The **Boston Real Estate Times** is looking for nominations for its **2019 Excellence Awards**, honoring outstanding individuals in the commercial real estate industry. Read more and submit nominations [here](#).



MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE

Mass Technology Collaborative funds an **Intern Partnership program**, reimbursing digital technology companies for the salaries of interns. Read more [here](#).



MassMEP and the **Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium** are working with manufacturers to **fund apprenticeship training**. Read more [here](#).



MassEcon hosted its **11th Annual Corporate Welcome Reception** recognizing 13 new companies to Massachusetts. Governor Baker was the featured speaker. Learn more about the companies, view event photos, watch videos, and read the event blog [here](#).



Join the **Coalition of New England Companies for Trade** on June 12 for a tour of Boston's Cargo facilities. Register for the event [here](#).



TechJam is coming up on June 13 at City Hall Plaza in Boston. Click [here](#) for opportunities to register, perform, exhibit, and have your interns compete in the Battle of the Interns.



MassEcon is accepting nominations for its **16th Annual Team Massachusetts Economic Impact Awards**, an exceptional event that recognizes growing companies for their contributions to the state's economy.

Here is the criteria and eligibility:

- Company must have a physical presence and growth in MA
- Job creation, increased square footage, and financial investment since Jan. 1, 2018
- Company must be a for-profit entity

Nominate a company [here](#).



Notes on the
economy

In Q1 2019, the **Massachusetts economy grew faster than the national average**, at a 4.6% annual rate, according to the latest issue of the UMass Donahue Institute's *MassBenchmarks*. Read more [here](#).

The **Greater Boston commercial real estate market** had a **strong start to 2019** according to a report by CBRE, with growth in office and industrial space. Read more [here](#).

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