



**IN BRIEF**  
 MAKING **MOVES** IN  
 MASSACHUSETTS

**Expanding**  
 in **MASS**



Cambridge-based **Visterra** increased its headquarters by **12.5K SF** by moving its headquarters to **Waltham**. Read more [here](#).

The country's largest employee benefits firm, **Alera Group**, made the move to **Boston**, by acquiring Spring Consulting Group, which employs **30** and **generates more than \$10 million** in revenue. Read more [here](#).

Adding to its footprint in MA, **Abbvie**, with a major presence in **Worcester**, plans on adding **42K SF** to its **Cambridge** research facility, almost doubling in size. Read more [here](#).



**MassMutual** plans to invest **\$300 million** in new office space over the next four years, adding **2,000 jobs** to the state in **Springfield** and **Boston**. Read more [here](#).

**LakePharma** purchased a property in **Hopkinton** for a microbio manufacturing facility. **100 jobs** are expected by 2020. Read more [here](#).

Biotech startup **Rubius Therapeutics** is expanding for the second time in a year with a **45K SF** space in **Cambridge's Kendall Square**. Read more [here](#).



**Caesar Creek Software** is expanding from Ohio to **5,500 SF** in **Woburn**. Read more [here](#).

**Home Depot** is looking to add **300 jobs** in Western Massachusetts, encouraging college students, veterans, and retirees to apply. Read more [here](#).

Ireland-based opioid addiction treatment drug maker **Alkermes** expanded its research and development facility by over **67K SF** in **Waltham**. Read more [here](#).



**Mimecast**, leaders in the cyber security industry, moved its headquarters from Watertown to **Lexington**, allowing more room for **over 300 employees**. Read more [here](#).

Dorchester-based screen printing company **College Hype** expanded to **Weymouth**, adding **15K SF** and nearly **\$300,000** in new equipment. Read more [here](#).

Japanese tea house **Gen Sou En** established its first Massachusetts location in Coolidge Corner in **Brookline**. Read more [here](#).



Toronto-based home service app, **Jiffy On Demand**, expanded to **Boston**, marking its first U.S. location. Read more [here](#).



Over the next 18 months, family-owned **Big Y** plans on doubling the size of its **Springfield** facility, adding **32 new jobs** and **232K SF**. Read more [here](#).



North Carolina-based **Alcami Corporation** opened a new sales office in **Cambridge's Kendall Square**. Read more [here](#).



**Amazon** is negotiating a lease for **430K SF** in **Boston's Seaport District**, with plans to bring at least **2,000 jobs** to the Commonwealth. Read more [here](#).



Harvard innovation lab

Harvard Innovation Labs is expanding its management team and its programming in 2018 to meet entrepreneurial interests. Read more [here](#).

## NEW Products & funding



In its largest fundraising round to date, **Boston-based Battery Ventures** secured **\$1.25 billion** for investments and buyouts. Read more [here](#).



WOMEN'S FUND  
*of Western Massachusetts*

The **Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts** secured a **\$25K** grant from the **Irving and Sulamith Blackberg Charitable Foundation** to further the organization's reach to help and serve more women and girls in the area. Read more [here](#).



**Senate President Harriette Chandler** and **Senator Michael Moore** secured **\$3.6 billion** bond for repairs and improvements for the **City of Worcester** and across the state. Read more [here](#).



**Holliston-based** biotech company **Biostage** secured **\$1 million**. The company wants to focus on the **Asian market** for medical devices that treat esophageal problems. Read more [here](#).



**Woburn-based Ionic Materials Inc.** secured **\$65 million** to commercialize a polymer that could make batteries safer, cheaper, and longer lasting. Read more [here](#).



Cambridge-based **startup Takeoff Technologies**, which aims to automate grocery shopping, secured **\$12.5 million**. Read more [here](#).



Aiming to create a gene therapy that can treat Fabry disease, **Cambridge-based startup AvroBio** secured **\$60 million**. Read more [here](#).



**LIGHTELLIGENCE**

**Cambridge-based startup Lightelligence**, which created an AI hardware that uses a photonic integrated circuit to generate high efficiency computing, secured **\$10 million**. Read more [here](#).



**Five Cape Cod towns** received **\$3.6 million** from the Governor's Office in an effort to enhance Massachusetts' marine economy. Read more [here](#).



**Cambridge startup Tremeau Pharmaceuticals** secured **\$5.2 million** to further develop the arthritis drug Vioxx. Read more [here](#).



**Burlington-based XebiaLabs** secured a **\$100 million** investment to meet rising demand and further its R&D. Read more [here](#).



**Boston-based Algorand** secured **\$4 million** to develop a faster and cheaper way to exchange digital currency. Read more [here](#).



**Worcester Polytechnic Institute** secured a **\$1.6 million** grant to further develop an app that will let patients and caregivers track long term wounds and conditions. Read more [here](#).



**Boston-based startup Mabl**, founded by ex-Google managers, secured **\$10 million** to further develop its code-testing software. Read more [here](#).



**Cambridge-based startup Evelo Biosciences** secured more than **\$47.5 million** to further research for diseases. Read more [here](#).



**MIT startup Feature Labs**, which works with big data, artificial intelligence, and machine learning, launched after securing **\$1.5 million**. Read more [here](#).



**Framingham-based cybersecurity startup CyberX**, which has roots in Israel, secured **\$18 million**. Read more [here](#).

# Ambassadors @work



## Race Ahead: Improving Boston's Race and Diversity Brand

This event will be held on March 22 at the Seaport Hotel in Boston, and include discussions about where we are, and how Boston can increase its diversity in the workforce. Sign up for the event [here](#).



## The City of Cambridge Entrepreneurship Assistance Program

If you're a new entrepreneur, check out the City of Cambridge Entrepreneurship Assistance Program. This collaboration between The Capital Network and the City of Cambridge grants scholarships to five start-ups, providing workshops, boot camps, panels, and more. Read more about the opportunity [here](#).



## 2018 New England Food Show

This year's New England Food Show, which focuses on suppliers to the food service industry, took place February 25-27. Nam Pham, Assistant Secretary of Business Development and International Trade, along with Maria DiStefano, Northeast Regional Director for the Massachusetts Office of Business Development, were among the attendees to support this important industry in the Commonwealth. Visit the Food Show's [home page](#) for more information about past and future food shows.



## The 2018 ILC Immigrant Entrepreneur Awards

The Immigrant Learning Center will be hosting an awards dinner honoring outstanding Massachusetts immigrant entrepreneurs who have contributed to business growth, neighborhood business, high-tech business, and life-science business. If you would like to nominate anyone, click [here](#) by March 9.



## GK Ideas for Equity

Get Connected! is gathering ideas for how to make Boston a more equitable and inclusive city. Submit your suggestions for the Ideas for Equity [here](#).



## 2018 AMP it up! Video Challenge Now Underway

Grants for schools. Exposure for manufacturers. Glory for students. The AMP it up! Video Challenge makes everybody a winner. Massachusetts high school and middle school students are invited to enter an annual contest to help generate excitement about careers in manufacturing. The statewide initiative is designed to motivate students to learn more about some of the world's most innovative products and explore an industry that offers highly-skilled, well-paying jobs – right here in Massachusetts. Manufacturers looking to participate can find more [here](#).

# BOSTINNO

## March Tech Events in Boston

BostInno compiled a list of 36 tech events that are happening in Boston in the month of March. Check out all of these events [here](#).



Notes on the  
*economy*

Governor Baker recently signed Executive Order No. 579 establishing the **Commission on the Future of Transportation in the Commonwealth** to advise the Baker-Polito Administration on future transportation needs and challenges in the Commonwealth. The Commission will meet monthly to develop a range of scenarios anticipated between 2020 and 2040 and provide a report with recommendations addressing those situations by December 1, 2018. Read more [here](#).

The **U.S. added a total of 200,000 jobs in the month of January**, marking the 88th straight month of job growth. The unemployment rate stayed the same as it was at the end of December at 4.1%. Read more [here](#).

What is the best way to grow the Boston economy? This [research study](#) by the **Boston Foundation** encourages the city to invest in its **public transportation system**.

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