



IN BRIEF
MAKING MOVES IN
MASSACHUSETTS

Expanding
in MASS



Biotech company **Akouos** is locating its **37K SF** headquarters in **Boston's Seaport District**. Read more [here](#).



Senior Metal Bellows, a 60-year-old precision components manufacturer based in **Sharon**, is **expanding by 37K SF**. Read more [here](#).



EMD Serono announced its plans to build a new **\$70 million** facility for its immunology work. The **145K SF** building in **Billerica** will be for clinical testing of a new cancer-fighting drug. Read more [here](#).



Astellas Pharma is moving to **Westborough**, adding up to **300 jobs** and **250K SF**. Read more [here](#).



Co-working company **WeWork** signed its largest lease in **Boston** and will take over 11 of the top floors at **One Lincoln Street**. WeWork is looking to fill the over **4,000 desk** co-working space with small to medium sized businesses. Read more [here](#).



This spring, third-generation, **Boston-based** surveying firm **Feldman Surveyors** is opening up a **2K SF** office in **Worcester** which will allow the firm to hire and retain workers in that area. Read more [here](#).



Vitamin Sea Brewing Company opened in **Weymouth**. Read more [here](#).



Nexthink, a Swiss technology company, with its U.S. headquarters in **Boston**, is more than **doubling its local presence** after securing **\$85 million**. Read more [here](#).



Google signed a **362K SF** lease at **Kendall Center**, its second office space in **Cambridge**. Read more [here](#).



Biomedical Polymers, a molder of laboratory plastics, opened its new **80K SF** headquarters in **Sterling** after moving from a 24K SF plant in Gardner, and is seeking to **double its production**. Read more [here](#).



Boston-based online home furnishing retailer **Wayfair** opened its **first brick-and-mortar store** after testing holiday pop-up shops in MA and NJ. Read more [here](#).



Cambridge biotech company **Torque Therapeutics** is collaborating with drug giant Merck to test Torque's T-Cell Therapy drug's ability to fight multiple types of cancers. Read more [here](#).



A UST-Aldetec Group Company



Athol-based **Ascend Wellness** secured **\$55 million** which will be used to open its **flagship store in Boston**. Read more [here](#).

Electronic component designer and manufacturer **U.S. Technologies** has relocated from Marlborough to **Shirley**. Read more [here](#).

Textile importer and distributor **Magnus Textile** recently moved its office from Chelmsford to **Acton**. Read more [here](#).



Hopkinton-based aviation startup **Alakai Technologies** expanded its office by **7K SF**. Read more [here](#).

Artificial intelligence creator **DataRobot** is expanding its presence in **Boston**. The company leased nearly doubled the space of its previous location to just under **57K SF** that will accommodate DataRobot's growing staff. Read more [here](#).

SIRION Biotech International, a subsidiary of German-based SIRON Biotech GmbH, expanded its U.S. presence with an office in **Cambridge**. The company provides custom engineering and manufacturing services of viral vectors for the life sciences industry. Read more [here](#).

NEW Products & funding



Cambridge- based aerial surveying startup **AirWorks Solutions** secured **\$2.7 million** for developing aerial mapping software to analyze construction sites. Read more [here](#).



Carbon Relay, an artificial intelligence startup, founded in 2015 in **Boston and Washington D.C.**, secured **\$5 million** to scale its products, build out sales, marketing and account support

functions, and hire employees.

Read more [here](#).



Hydrow, an early stage **Cambridge-based** company that makes rowing machines designed to mimic a river, secured **\$20 million**. Read more [here](#).



Crayon, a **Boston-based** market intelligence software startup, secured **\$6 million** to double its headcount in sales, engineering, and marketing. Read more [here](#).



MachineMetrics, a startup based in **Northampton** that specializes in predictive analytics for manufacturers, secured **\$11.3 million** to double its workforce to more than 50 and focus on global sales. Read more [here](#).



Boston biotech **Vor Biopharma**, which develops drugs that harness the body's immune system to fight blood cancer, secured **\$42 million**. Read more [here](#).



Cambridge sales tech startup and Techstars alum **Polis** secured **\$2.5 million** for the hiring of new employees. Read more [here](#).



Jobcase, a digital job finding site in **Cambridge**, secured **\$100 million** to hire employees, and improve and expand the reach of its product. The company has 180 employees in Kendall Square and is ranked the fourth largest online destination for career resources in the country.

Read more [here](#).



Cambridge-based startup video game voice software maker, **Modulate**, secured **\$2 million** to expand its team. Read more [here](#).

Ambassadors @work



MASS TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Mass Technology Leadership Council will host its **Build Your Business Conference** on March 14 and 15. Programming will feature information on building company leadership, sales, and human resources. Learn more [here](#).



Due to a future shortage of skilled workers in manufacturing **Greentown Labs** is calling for applications for innovative ideas to disrupt the built environment value chain with the **inNOVate 2019 Challenge** in partnership with **CertainTeed** and **Saint-Gobain NOVA**. Read more [here](#).



Leaders in the life sciences industry launched a new program, **Project Onramp**, including internships for **50 low-income students** from **Framingham State University** at some of the regions largest companies. Read more [here](#).



ROBOTICA Autonomous Vehicle Summit is entering its third year and **AVUSI New England** is bringing industry experts from across the U.S. for a review of current market initiatives on April 18. Read more [here](#).



Worcester Business Journal is hosting its annual **Manufacturing Summit & Excellence Awards** on **April 18**. This event will feature a panel of experts, networking opportunities, and the 2019 honorees. Read more [here](#).



NEW ENGLAND
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
CONNECT & GROW

The **New England Business Association** is accepting applications from innovative companies for its **2019 Innovation Awards**. The deadline for applications is **April 1**. Read more [here](#).



The construction of the new **Berkshire Innovation Center** is nearing completion. The BIC will provide **advanced capabilities to manufacturers** in the Berkshires, supporting economic growth and private investment in the region. Read more [here](#).



From March 12-14, join the **Massachusetts Life Sciences Center** for an **executive education program** to help industry leaders, investors, and policy makers understand and develop a digital health strategy for their organizations. Read more [here](#).



NAIOP Massachusetts is hosting a two-part **Real Estate Development Fundamentals** class on March 13 and March 22 to help students understand real estate development strategies, responsibilities, and risks. Register [here](#).



Join **LabShares Newton** on **March 13** to celebrate the opening of its new space. Register [here](#).



The **Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce** and **Bowditch Attorneys** are hosting the **Start Me Up Legal Conference** on March 27, aimed at providing guidance to budding entrepreneurs and startups. Register [here](#).



MassBio is re-imagining its annual meeting with the **"State of Possible Conference"** on March 27-28 which draws from over **600 industries** from Massachusetts and beyond to discuss the challenges facing the life sciences today. Read more [here](#).



Mass Innovation Nights is featuring innovative solutions and products from current students, alumni, and professors at Brandeis University on March 14. Register [here](#).



The **B-BIC Skills Development Center** is hosting its 4th annual investor pitch event: **Major League Tryouts** on May 30. The event will feature early-stage biomedical innovation projects supported by the **Boston Biomedical Innovation Center**. Read more [here](#).



Notes on the *economy*

While the Massachusetts economy added **5,600 jobs** in December 2018 and the **unemployment rate** dropped to **3.3%**, **MassBenchmarks**' latest edition forecasts a decline in the state's economic growth in 2019. Read more [here](#).

The **MassVentures 2018 Innovation Economy Survey** highlights that fewer entrepreneurs are leaving Massachusetts, and when they do, it is for access to capital. The survey also shows that the innovation economy is improving and access to capital is getting better, but there is still a shortage of equity capital for startups. Read more [here](#).

MassEcon | 617-924-4600 | info@massecon.com | www.massecon.com

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