



Making Moves in Massachusetts

March 2015

Expanding in MA

The **Commonwealth's Economic Assistance Coordinating Council** approved **13 projects** for development incentives to spur expansions for companies including **Amazon** in **Fall River** and **Freetown**; **Argotech** in **Greenfield**; **Jen-Coat** in **Westfield**; and **Amadeus** in **Waltham**. Read more [here](#).

Social networking giant **Facebook** announced plans to **double its staff** this year at its **Cambridge** engineering office. Read more [here](#).

Biomedical firm **New England Peptide** will expand its **Gardner** facilities by **12.5K SF** for additional research and production space. Read more [here](#).

Akamai Technologies, the **Cambridge-based** Internet content delivery firm, **acquired** domain name system technology company **Xerocol Inc.** based in Boulder, Colorado. The company could hire as many as **1,000 employees** this year to staff its newly formed Emerging Mobile Products Business Unit. Read more [here](#).

Boston-based mobile app analytics and marketing company **Localytics** will **hire 100 employees** by the end of 2015 following **\$35 million** in funding. Read more [here](#).

Cryptzone, an IT security company based in Sweden, has moved its HQ to a **10K SF** space in **Waltham**. The company plans to **grow its staff by 30%** and half of the employees will be hired for the Waltham location. Read more [here](#).

New Products & Funding

After securing **\$7 million** in funding, **LiquiGlide**, the **Cambridge-based** maker of spray-on coating technology, is focusing on a new customer segment: the oil and gas industry. Read more [here](#).

Just two years after launching its first product, **Westborough-based SimpliVity**, maker of a novel IT appliance system aimed at data centers, raised **\$175 million**. Read more [here](#).

Mersana Therapeutics, a 34-employee firm in **Cambridge** which develops cancer drugs, secured **\$35 million** in funding. Read more [here](#).

Harvest Automation, the **Billerica-based** maker of robots used in agriculture, raised **\$2.9 million**, with plans to enter into the **e-commerce** industry. Read more [here](#).

Aura Biosciences, a biotech firm headquartered in **Cambridge**, raised **\$21 million** to continue working to treat ocular cancer. Read more [here](#).

Collegium, a **Canton** drug developer whose abuse-deterrent opiate is under consideration for FDA approval, raised **\$50 million** in equity funding led by TPG Biotech. Read more [here](#).

Cambridge database technology startup **NuoDB Inc.** raised **\$9.5 million** in equity funding. Read more [here](#).

Tetraphase Pharmaceuticals in

Boston Heart Diagnostics is expanding with a **35K SF** space in **Framingham** to accommodate an estimated **80 more employees** it plans to add this year. Read more [here](#).

Biotech firm **Dicerna** moved to **West Cambridge** and doubled its HQ size to **37K SF**. The company will add another **10 jobs** this year. Read more [here](#).

Framingham-based health care analytics company **Definitive Healthcare** plans to **double its employee base to 100** in 2015. The company is seeking new space within the **MetroWest** region to accommodate its growth. Read more [here](#).

Boston-based ezCater, an online marketplace for catering services aimed at businesses, secured **nearly \$12 million** and will **add about 35 people** to its existing workforce of 80. Read more [here](#).

Trillium Brewing Co. plans to add a second brewery in **Canton** by the end of 2015 in a **16K SF** space near University Station. Read more [here](#).

HealthEdge, a **Burlington-based** health insurance software company, is **adding 40 employees**, which will bring the total number of employees to 260 by the end of 2015. Read more [here](#).

Ginko Bioworks, Inc. will lease an additional **6.8K SF** of space for a foundry in the **Seaport Innovation District** of **Boston**. Read more [here](#).

With **\$70 million** in recent funding, **Newton Centre-based** biotech **Chiasma**, plans to seek approval of its first drug in coming months, along with a **larger HQ in Newton or Cambridge**. Read more [here](#).

Organism design firm **Bioworks** raised **\$9 million** which will be used to complete construction at its **Boston HQ**. The company recently expanded by about 50% to **18K SF**. A second facility is set to be built in 2017 and is in design phases. Read more [here](#).

Watertown secured **\$22 million** to launch a new biotech called **Macrolide**, focused on developing antibiotics for drug-resistant infections. Read more [here](#).

Since securing **\$43 million**, **Nimbus Therapeutics**, based in **Cambridge**, can progress clinical trials of its non-alcoholic liver disease drug. Read more [here](#).

Somerville-based CoolChip Technologies, which is trying to revolutionize the fans that are built into computers, raised **\$3.3 million**. Read more [here](#).

Boston-based Gelesis, a biotech developing a hydrogel capsule to help control hunger and improve control of glycemic control, secured **\$22 million** in funding. Read more [here](#).

Daktari Diagnostics, a **Cambridge-based** company which screens for and diagnoses diseases, secured **\$15.5 million** for its diagnostics platform and hopes to enter the global market this year. Read more [here](#).

Email support software startup, **Help Scout**, based in **Boston**, raised **\$6 million** which will be used to **double its headcount from 20 to 40** within the year. Read more [here](#).

A computer-aided software startup, **Onshape**, based in **Cambridge**, raised **\$64 million** in funding and announced the launch of its beta program. Read more [here](#).

Thirteen projects across the Commonwealth have been awarded funding totaling **\$1.2 million** from the **Massachusetts Clean Energy Center** to help promote clean energy initiatives. Read more [here](#).

Based in **Cambridge**, **Semma Therapeutics** raised **\$44 million** to continue researching a cure for diabetes. Read more [here](#).

Minerva Neurosciences, which moved from Cambridge to **Waltham** last year, raised **\$31 million** and will continue researching central nervous system disorder treatments. Read more [here](#).

Boston-based advertising automation software firm, **Nanigans**, raised **\$24 million** which it plans to use to grow the company

WGM Fabricators of Northbridge will undergo an **\$8.1 million** expansion project in a **25K SF** facility which they plan to renovate and expand by **8.8K SF**. Read more [here](#).

internationally. Read more [here](#).

A clinical stage neuroscience focused company, **Neurovance**, based in **Cambridge**, raised **\$5.5 million** for its abuse-proof drug for adult ADHD. Read more [here](#).

Ambassadors @ Work

Entrepreneurship in the Pioneer Valley

Through the **Western MA Economic Development Council** and **Vestry Industries**, Western Massachusetts is showcasing its entrepreneurial assets with a full day of visits to key venues and innovators. They include meeting at **UMass Amherst** to learn about new research initiatives; **BRICK**, collaborative workspace in Holyoke; and **TechSpring** and **VVM** Accelerator in Springfield. To learn more, click [here](#).

Notes on the Economy

The latest [MassBenchmarks](#) update from **UMass** reveals that despite the weather this winter, the Massachusetts economy has **remained strong** and any negative effects will be small and transient. Read the update [here](#).

The **Associated Industries of Massachusetts Business Confidence Index** is at its **highest** since October of 2006, indicating widespread confidence in the state's economy. Read more [here](#).

The **Department of Labor** and economists report that U.S. **job growth** is surpassing expectations. Learn more [here](#).

According to **the Fed's beige book**, six out of twelve regions are experiencing **moderate growth** while the rest have modest gains. Read more [here](#).

The **UMass Donahue Institute**, in collaboration with **The Boston Foundation**, prepared a preliminary economic analysis of the potential opportunities, impacts, and risks of a **Boston 2024 Olympic Games**. Read the report [here](#).

A report commissioned by the **Providers' Council**, and conducted by the **UMass Donahue Institute** and the **UMass Dartmouth Public Policy Center**, show **48% growth** in human services jobs in MA since 2003. Learn more and read the report [here](#).

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