



## Ambassadors Update

November - December 2011

### Expanding in MA

**EXEL Inc.**, a supply chain and logistics company, has leased **181,980 SF** of space at the Myles Standish Industrial Park in **Taunton**. The space will be used for storage and distribution purposes. Click [here](#) to read more.

**HealthSouth**, a healthcare provider specializing in rehabilitation, is relocating its rehabilitation hospital to **Ludlow** as part of a \$70M redevelopment of the Ludlow Mills complex. The hospital will cover **72,000 SF** of space on 10 acres of land. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Airvana Inc.**, a provider of solutions to improve wireless networks, renewed its lease of a **63,220 SF** space in **Chelmsford**. Airvana Inc. supplies many of the largest cell-phone providers with solutions for dramatically improved coverage, performance, and capacity of 3G wireless networks. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Fidelity Information Services**, a banking and payments technologies company, leased **85,000 SF** of space at the Canton Commerce Center in **Canton**. Occupancy is scheduled for April 2012. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Environmental Chemical Corp**, a construction and remediation contractor for government and commercial organizations, expanded its space within 33 Boston Post Road in **Marlborough** to **18,231 SF**. Click [here](#) to read more.

**InVivo Therapeutics Holding Corp**, a life sciences company, has signed a six-year lease that will relocate its headquarters to 1 Kendall Square in **Cambridge**. The **20,000 SF** area features bio-tech and lab space for the company. Click [here](#) to read more.

### Ambassador A-List, New Products & Funding

**Karyopharm Therapeutics Inc**, a biotech startup based in **Newton**, added an additional **\$10M** to its Series A round for the development of cancer treatments. The funds will be used to expand its trial program of cancer drugs. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Seventh Sense Biosystems Inc.**, a startup biotech firm based in **Cambridge**, was awarded a **\$3.28M** grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in support of its blood-sampling diagnostics research. The firm's technology facilitates the blood collection process, allowing easier access to testing for resource-poor communities. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Excelimmune Inc.**, a **Woburn**-based biotech firm, has rounded up **\$12M** from an undisclosed private investor. The company plans to use the funding to support its infectious disease research programs. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Zink Imaging**, an inkless printing technology firm, raised **\$35M** in its Series B financing round. The company is based in **Bedford**, and spun off from Polaroid in 2005. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Actifio**, a provider of business data backup services, has raised **\$33M** in its Series C financing round. Based in **Waltham**, the firm has established itself as a market leader in data management services. Click [here](#) to read more.

Software testing company **uTest** completed a **\$17M** round of funding led by venture firm QuestMark Partners. The company is based in **Southborough**, and conducts research and tests on software applications in real-world conditions. Click [here](#) to read more.

## Ambassadors @ Work



On November 22nd, **MassEcon** held its Eighth Annual Team Massachusetts Economic Impact Awards Luncheon at the Seaport Hotel in Boston. 400 attendees came together from across the state to honor the winning companies which invested in the Commonwealth through job creation, facility expansion, and community service. **Governor Deval Patrick** was on hand to congratulate the winning companies which represented a wide range of industries from all regions in the state. For full coverage of the event, including pictures and videos, please click [here](#). For press accounts of the event, click [here](#).



From December 4th - 9th, **Governor Deval Patrick** led a coalition of the Commonwealth's leading business executives and state economic development officials on an innovation economy development mission to Brazil. Making stops in Brasilia, Sao Paulo, and Rio de Janeiro, the delegation visited Brazilian companies, universities and government leaders - highlighting all that Massachusetts has to offer to Brazil. The mission solidified the already strong Massachusetts-Brazil connection by exploring new economic development and clean energy partnerships. Among the new partnerships established was the TOP USA-Massachusetts Program, an initiative promoting the academic exchange between faculty and students between several North American and Brazilian universities, including **UMass**. Click [here](#) to read more.

On November 28th, Governor Deval Patrick launched the **Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative** (AMC) and released a new roadmap for manufacturing job growth in the Commonwealth. The inaugural meeting of the AMC drew over 80 people from industry, academia, and government to **Nypro Corporation** in Clinton, MA, whose president, **Ted Lapres**, hosted the event. The meeting highlighted the goals and mission of the AMC and outlined the next steps in the process to promote manufacturing in the state. For more information about the Massachusetts AMC, click [here](#).

### Employer Confidence Increases in Massachusetts

On December 6th, the Associated Industries of Massachusetts (AIM) issued its Business Confidence Index, which indicated a rise in employer confidence in the month of November. The latest index figures suggest that more employers are optimistic about the economy than pessimistic about it, and it marked the first increase in business confidence in three months. Data collected in connection with the index also indicate the respondents feel the Massachusetts economy is outperforming the rest of the nation's. Click [here](#) to read more.

### Massachusetts Unemployment Rate Hits 3-year Low

The Massachusetts jobless rate has fallen to 7 percent, which marks its lowest level in nearly three years. State officials announced that the state created 5,000 new jobs in November, and Governor Patrick lauded the new numbers as proof that the Commonwealth is heading in the right direction. The November figure is the lowest since December 2008, when the economic recession had just begun. Click [here](#) to read more.

### Academic Institutions Aim to Kick-start Manufacturing

Several academic institutions are forging a partnership to reinvigorate factories and manufacturing processes across the nation, spearheaded by the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** (MIT). Spurred by a \$500 million White House initiative, universities nationwide are helping raise and direct money and political capital into measures that reach across disciplines to devise new products and produce them en masse. **Susan Hockfield**, President of MIT, also spearheads the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership, a national initiative pulling together federal agencies and drawing resources from a range of academic institutions. Click [here](#) to read more.

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The Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development is a private, non-profit partnership of business and government dedicated to the economic growth of the Commonwealth.