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## **Kopco Graphics triples footprint in Manatee County**

*Bradenton, FL* – [Kopco Graphics Inc.](http://KopcoGraphics.com) -- which specializes in flexographic printing of pressure sensitive labels, stickers and food-grade labels -- has tripled its Manatee County footprint in a 12,000 sq. ft. facility to accommodate more equipment and expanded services for global brands, according to Nancy Engel, executive director of the Economic Development Council, Manatee Chamber of Commerce.

“From Paris Hilton’s perfume to Publix Supermarkets’ groceries, Kopco Graphics serves diverse national and global brands, which helps to insulate the business from economic downturns,” said Engel, whose organization has assisted Kopco with employee recruitment and tax issues.

The Fairfield, Ohio-based company expanded into Manatee County in 2003 with the purchase of a Bradenton printing business. Kopco Operations Manager Shane Barrett said the company expects to continue growing through stronger Internet marketing and internal sales. He plans to add up to three employees in 2009 in production and customer service.

“Our business is strongly focused in food and nutritional supplements. Despite the slow economy, people are still eating and taking their vitamins,” Barrett said. “Sales revenues were up 25 percent in 2008 over the previous year, and we are achieving a 17-percent growth rate so far this year. We hope to outgrow our new facility within five years. When that happens, we’ll stay in Manatee County.”

In March 2009, Kopco received the Eugene Singer Award for Management Excellence, which recognizes excellence in business management measured by growth and profitability ratios established by the Tag and Label Manufacturers Institute. Kopco also received the institute’s top award in technical achievement for a hang tag label created for a popular water product.

### **About the EDC**

The Economic Development Council, a division of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, is the sole organization responsible for developing and implementing programs designed to attract new value-added businesses and to assist in the retention and growth of targeted existing businesses in Manatee County. Information: [www.ManateeEDC.com](http://www.ManateeEDC.com).

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