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Manatee Economic Development Council: 2009 business relocations and expansions could generate 500 new jobs

Bradenton, FL – The [Manatee Economic Development Council](#) (EDC) assisted relocations and expansions of 13 companies in 2009 in diverse industries. If they meet their projections, those companies could create 500 net new jobs with an average wage of more than 115 percent of the annual average wage paid in Manatee County, according to Eric Basinger, executive director of the EDC, a division of the [Manatee Chamber of Commerce](#).

“The Manatee Economic Development Council is all about jobs – retaining the jobs we already have in Manatee County and recruiting new businesses that will bring more, high wage jobs to local residents,” Basinger said.

From that proactive view, the EDC in 2009 forged a dynamic strategy that outlines tactics in the areas of workforce development; entrepreneur and technology development; business recruitment and international trade; and business retention and expansion.

While many of the EDC’s traditional efforts as a vital business resource for existing companies must and will continue, Basinger said, the new plan calls for unprecedented efforts in the recruitment of high-impact employment providers drawn from across the United States and around the globe.

“Our timing for this aggressive outreach approach is excellent. Signs point to a slowly improving economic outlook,” he said. At the beginning of 2010, the EDC was working with 44 active projects for expansions and relocations while telling Manatee County’s business climate story to companies in growth industries around the world.

Companies the EDC assisted in 2009 whose relocations and expansions have been announced include: DemanData Systems, Dulond Tool & Engineering, Environmental BioTech, Florida BioMass, Healthy Chocolate, Kopco Graphics, Mustang Vacuum Systems, Trinity Manufacturing and VeeThree Electronics.

For more information about the EDC and Manatee County’s economic development strategy to provide more, high-wage jobs for local residents, visit the EDC’s web site at www.ManateeEDC.com.

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 high-impact businesses and to assist in the retention and growth of targeted existing businesses in Manatee County. Information: www.ManateeEDC.com.

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