

// COLORADO SPRINGS REGIONAL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2009-2010 Annual Report



INTRODUCTION



The Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is proud to be the home of the Local Industry Program. In these tough economic times, our local companies need all the help they can get and the EDC Local Industry Team is committed to the retention and expansion of all of our local primary employers.

By supporting our existing primary employers (those companies that receive most of their revenue from outside of the region), we are supporting the creation of jobs, capital investment and economic wealth for the entire region. On behalf of the EDC and our entire community, I would like to thank these companies that have invested so much in our community and commit to you that this community values you and appreciates your investment in the Pikes Peak Region.

EDC is dedicated to developing and maintaining a strong relationship with each and every one of our over 500 primary employers. Our regular on-site visits with many of our primary employers help us to identify the challenges and opportunities these companies face. We thank those businesses who provided feedback in 2010, and we look forward to getting to know all of our local companies in the future.

The success of our primary employers is the key to our economic vitality, the future of our community and preservation of our quality of life in the entire region. The EDC, in concert with our many partners and community leaders, will continue to work to assist each and every primary employer and to improve the business climate in the region, so that our primary employers can continue to grow and flourish.

Quality of life begins with a job!



Mike Kazmierski
President and CEO
Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation



Colorado Springs is a great place to do business! As Mayor of Colorado Springs, I would like to thank the employers in our community for doing business here.

Economic development is critical to the vibrancy of our community. The City of Colorado Springs and its leadership are dedicated to fostering an outstanding

business climate, and our support of the Local Industry Program at the Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation is one of the ways in which we demonstrate our commitment.

Primary employers provide jobs, economic wealth, and enhance our brand as a vibrant economy. Our community's economic health depends on our local primary employers, which allows our citizens the opportunity to earn a living, purchase goods and services and enjoy an excellent quality of life.

We thank those businesses who participated in the Local Industry Visitation Program in 2009/2010, and welcome additional involvement and feedback from all of our primary employers.

Thank you again for doing business in Colorado Springs!

Sincerely,



Mayor Lionel Rivera
City of Colorado Springs



Executive Summary

The Local Industry Program

Since its inception in 2004, the Local Industry Program has been focused on conducting Business Retention and Expansion Visits with primary employers within our region. Traditionally, these employers are well established companies that received 50% or more of their trade revenues from outside the Pikes Peak region. The purpose of these visits is to identify issues and opportunities for expansion.

Each year the EDC Board of Directors establishes measures of success for the Local Industry Program. During the 2009/10 fiscal year, each of these measures was met 100%.

The focus for this program in 2011 and going forward will be broader-based to enable the program to provide services to more employers, and add more jobs and capital investment in the community. Specifically, the Local Industry Program will assist in "Enterprise Development" through its partnership with the Colorado Springs Technology Incubator, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), the City, Service Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE), High Altitude Investors and The Chamber of Commerce. The EDC believes that a strong entrepreneurial culture is critical to a successful and vibrant economy.

Additionally, the program will take a more proactive approach to helping business grow and expand. In 2009 Project Scout was launched to assist local companies broaden the market penetration within the region. Project Scout helped companies identify potential customers and then make the appropriate introductions.

"The Economic Development Corporation did an excellent job of facilitating meetings with the appropriate City Council representatives, administrative people, and coordinated follow-up meetings. Largely as a result of EDC's efforts, we were able to resolve many outstanding issues with the City. As a result, we did win the most recent RFP."

- Steve, Remington - CFO, Skyline Products

The Council for Local Industry

In 2007, the EDC established an advisory board comprised exclusively of representatives from Local Industry. These individuals help to guide the Local Industry Program, as well as provide input on the services provided to companies by the EDC's Local Industry team.

Dan Malinaric (Chair)	Managing Director/Site Manager, Atmel
Jeff Beauprez	President, Colorado Networks
Barry Baum	President (Retired), Western Forge Corporation
Chris Hufman	Vice President, T. Rowe Price
Elaine Thorndike	CEO, Colorado Association of Manufacturing and Technology
Jill Webb	Director of Business Development, Central Bancorp
Steve Wychulis	Director of Corporate Development, CEA Technologies



"I have enjoyed my relationship with EDC over the last several years. They have been responsive and very helpful with some difficult issues. The Local Industry team is dedicated to improving the business climate for local employers."
- Dan Malinaric, Managing Director and Site Manager, Atmel

Acknowledgements

The Local Industry Program is a collaborative effort – the successes and accomplishments of the program, and the benefits provided to primary employers in the Pikes Peak region are the result of the efforts of many organizations and individuals. The Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation, Colorado Springs Utilities and the City of Colorado Springs are all funding partners for this program.

First, many thanks are owed to the executives, managers, human resources professionals and other individuals from the companies we visited in 2009/10. We greatly appreciate the time taken out of busy schedules to share their perspectives on the business climate in the region. This feedback provides a roadmap for community and economic development leaders.

Thank you to the organizations and individuals who comprise the Economic Vitality Group (EVG) for their collaboration and efforts toward improving the business climate in the area. The EVG is a unique asset to the Colorado Springs area, in that many communities do not have a group of organizations committed to this business climate mission.



Economic Vitality Group Members:

Matt Barrett – Small Business Development Center
Lisa Bigelow – City of Colorado Springs
Dave Csintyan – Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce
Dan Dandapani – University of Colorado – Colorado Springs
Connie Dudgeon – The Colorado College
Stephannie Finley – Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce
Jerry Fritz – Pikes Peak Community College
Tyrone Johnson – Colorado Springs Utilities
Rob MacDonald – Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
Gary Markle – The Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation
DeAnne McCann – El Paso County Economic Development Division
Greg Mitchell – Colorado Technical University
Cindy Nowak – Colorado Association of Manufacturing and Technology
Randy Scott – Southern Colorado Business Partnership
Stephanie Steffens – Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
Janet Stevens – The Space Foundation
Jon Stepleton – Pikes Peak Community College Foundation
Jennifer Taylor – The Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation
John Wilson – Pikes Peak Workforce Center
Karen Yunker – Colorado Springs Utilities

In addition to the EVG, we would like to thank the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs Utilities, and County leadership. Their involvement demonstrates a strong commitment to the economic health and well-being of the primary employers in the region.

The EDC would like to thank the following primary employers for their investment in EDC. Their support, along with the support of EDC's other investors, make possible the services that the Local Industry Program provides to employers.

Primary Employers who invest in EDC:

Atmel Corporation
The Boeing Company
CH2M Hill
CTL/Thompson, Inc.
Comcast
El Paso Western Pipelines
Glassical Designs, Inc.
Imprimis, Inc.

Merrick & Company
NEK Advanced Systems Group
Neumann Systems Group
Nexgen Pharma
Skyline Products
Stresscon Corporation
The O'Neil Group/Braxton Technologies
United States Automobile Association (USAA)
Woodford Manufacturing



"The EDC has been a great partner for Ford Motor Credit. They are always accessible and attentive to our business needs. Since the EDC is so involved with the business community, they save us time by connecting us with other parties and city entities that can address our issues and opportunities."

- Mark E. Rickey, Director, Ford Credit Regional Service Center

To learn more about how your company can support this mission, please contact Julie Boswell at (719) 471-8183.

The Measure of Success

The Local Industry Visitation Program

In EDC's fiscal year 2009/10, 180 companies were visited through the Local Industry Visitation Program. This represents 100% accomplishment of the target visits. The smallest of these employers had two employees, and the largest over 2,000. During these visits, employers asked for assistance on 54 different issues. Thanks to the efforts of the EDC and their partners in the Economic Vitality Group, 100% of these issues were successfully resolved.



How did we help? Many assistance requests focused on financial assistance. The Local Industry team was able to connect companies with workforce training grants, job creation funds, Enterprise Zone tax credits, and referrals to financing resources. Other infrastructure-related requests were referred to Colorado Springs Utilities, City Transit, City Streets Division, the Colorado Springs Airport, and the Colorado Springs Fire Department. Requests for assistance with facility expansions were placed into the City's Rapid Response Program. The team also provided media introductions and networking opportunities. The EDC's Marketing Department was able to provide data to companies as requested.

Overall, the news was good from the primary employers who were visited. When asked, 9% of the companies surveyed indicated that they plan to expand in the next year. These expansions have reported a total of 320 jobs, with an average salary of \$65,300. These jobs will have an estimated economic impact of \$198 million over the next 6 years. (Per EDC's Economic Impact Model).

Enterprise Development



The Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation (EDC) views Enterprise Development (ED) as the critical third leg of its economic development stool. ED has a very broad definition ranging from micro-businesses that fill the needs of small neighborhoods, to early-stage companies with the ability to grow into significant generators of wealth and job creation. The EDC assists the latter group as they grow to become primary employers.

The EDC believes that a strong entrepreneurial culture is critical to a successful and vibrant economy. Our role is to help facilitate Enterprise Development through the support of organizations directly responsible for assisting companies as small as a sole-proprietor, to early-stage companies with significant institutional investment.

The Colorado Springs Technology Incubator, Peak Venture Group, Middle Market Entrepreneurs Group, High Altitude Investors, Small Business Development Center (SBDC), SCORE, and the Colorado Homeland Defense Alliance, are focused directly on assisting the Colorado Springs entrepreneurial community. The EDC directly assists entrepreneurs through its Project Scout program and Project Scout database, and through its support of the Segway Economic Gardening program.

The Pikes Peak region's unique attributes contribute to a strong entrepreneurial culture. There are over 15 institutions of higher learning with a vast array of offerings, including a Bachelor's Degree in Innovation at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. The City boasts a highly educated workforce with over 45% having higher education degrees; 10% higher than the national average.

We believe that all of these "Community Assets" make Colorado Springs a very unique environment for successful entrepreneurial activities.

Cross-Collaboration



The EDC, City and Colorado Springs Utilities have visitation programs with their respective customers. However, these three groups often visit the same organization, but for different reasons. During 2009/10 the EDC worked closely with the City and Colorado Springs Utilities to develop a much stronger collaborative effort to customer visits. Meetings were held between the organizations to provide “cross-training” of the mission and purpose of each organization’s visits. The intent was to reduce the amount of redundancy during the visit and provide opportunities to introduce each other’s organization during the conversation.

As a result of this effort, the EDC, City and Colorado Springs Utilities are much more synchronized in their visits and the amount of redundancy has been greatly reduced. In fact, the Local Industry team, the City, and Colorado Springs Utilities jointly visited several primary employers during 2010.

Local Industry Program Mission

By providing a customer-driven program that delivers world-class services to our local primary employers, the Local Industry Program will enhance and contribute to the overall objective of the Economic Development Corporation: to provide quality jobs for our community.

The Local Industry Program exists to proactively and systematically identify and address local primary employer needs, with an end goal of local investment and job creation.

Objectives include:

- Demonstrating a pro-business attitude in support of companies' Colorado Springs operations
- Building and cultivating positive relationships with corporate executives
- Identifying areas for improvement within the local business community
- Educating local executives and those at parent companies about resources available in Colorado Springs
- Helping local primary employers become more effective and competitive through the use of federal and state programs

“The involvement of the Colorado Springs Regional Economic Development Corporation played a significant role in us coming here...I’m not sure we would be here without CSREDC’s involvement and help...and the general responsiveness put them ahead of others. You need an entity like CSREDC to recruit and retain businesses.”

– Mike Mossman, Regional VP & GM, Everest University Online Service Center

Local Industry Program Achievements for 2009/10

The Local Industry Program at the EDC had a successful 2009/10 fiscal year, supporting the growth and continued presence of the area's primary employers.

The Local Industry Team personally visited 180 companies in El Paso County through our Local Industry Visitation Program. The purpose of these visits was to gather input on the business climate, to encourage further local investment (through job creation, equipment investment and facility expansion) and to determine if there are any issues with which the companies required assistance.

In 2009/10, 2 of the 7 companies for which EDC announced new jobs were expansions by local companies. These local expansions included:

- Auxsol
- USAA

In addition to the Local Industry visits conducted, the Local Industry team took the lead on the following initiatives that supported a positive business climate.

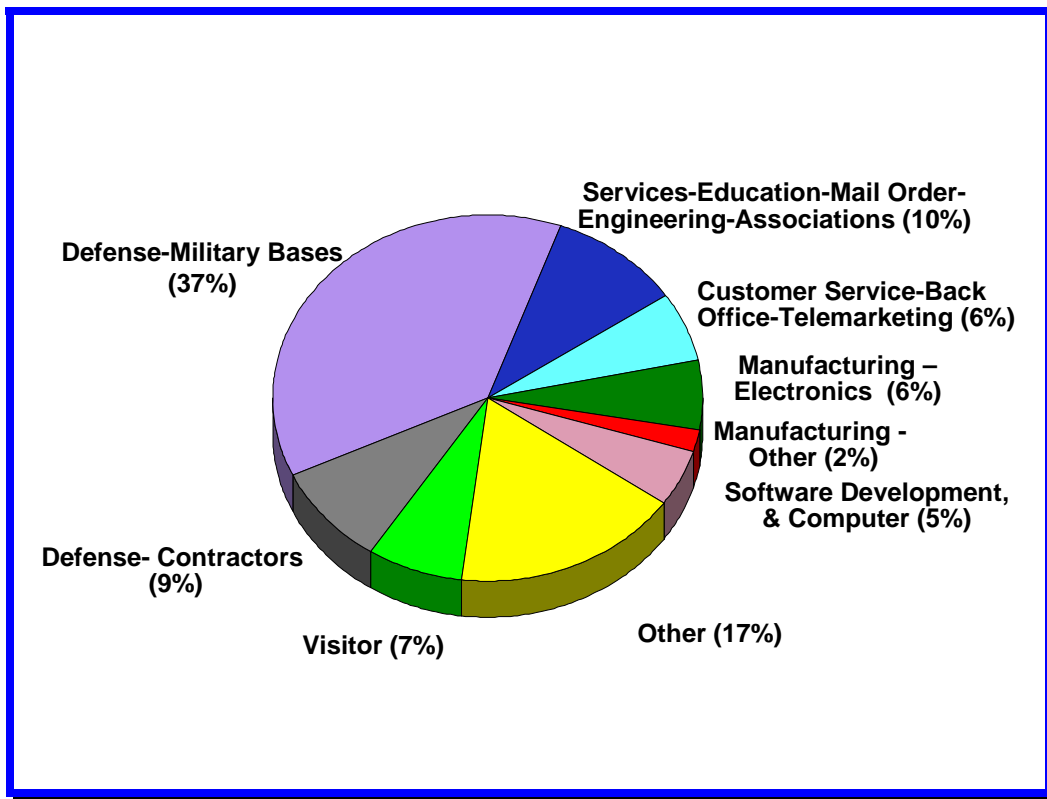
- **Project Scout:** Project Scout is a two-pronged initiative. First, the Scout proactively identifies specific product or service needs at a local company. Then, after gathering a thorough understanding of the need(s), the Scout looks for local companies to introduce as a possible product or service solution. For example: The Scout has identified a local company looking to purchase a scheduling software product for their business. After understanding the company's requirements, the Scout looks for local companies that provide this type of product. Typically, these will be small, early-stage companies who may not otherwise learn of this need. In this case, the Scout brings both companies together, which hopefully, creates a mutually beneficial relationship. The Scout can also serve to help create strategic partnerships between local companies where one of the partners needs the other for R&D, beta site or some other collaborative purpose.
- **Statewide Business Expansion Program:** The EDC received a grant from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) to develop a program model for business expansion that is replicable statewide. We will be presenting a toolbox of retention resources to other business retention and expansion organizations in Colorado, for the purpose of realizing more expansion opportunities from primary employers already doing business in Colorado, creating more jobs statewide without significant additional resources. This toolkit addresses Governor Hickenlooper's first Executive Order requesting the OEDIT to develop a comprehensive retention and expansion plan. www.coloradosprings.org/ExpansionResources.aspx
- **Southern Colorado Business Partnership:** The EDC's Local Industry team worked with the Southern Colorado Business Partnership (SCBP), to train their members on company visitation. The group includes members of all area chambers and economic development groups. The EDC has a proven process for company visitations and follow-up, and the feedback from the training was outstanding.



Who are Primary Employers?

There are approximately 550 primary employers in the Pikes Peak region. Primary employers are defined by the location of their customers. If more than 50% of a company's revenue comes from outside of El Paso County, that company is defined as a primary employer. Only 3.1% of the county's 17,863 employers are primary employers, yet these companies employ 23% of the total workforce.

The following chart demonstrates the composition of industry base in El Paso County:



The Local Industry Program focuses its efforts solely on primary employers because they are the drivers of economic wealth: by exporting goods and services, primary employers import wealth into the community. This wealth creates jobs and local investment, and allows a higher quality of life for our citizens.



On November 15, 2010, the EDC hosted the 5th Annual Excellence in Local Industry and Celebrate Technology Awards at the Broadmoor Hotel. With over 350 in attendance, the event was a successful celebration of the accomplishments of local primary employers.

The following awards were presented at the event:

The Corporate Social Responsibility Award was presented to Boeing, for the company's charitable giving programs that provide millions of dollars to organizations throughout the Pikes Peak region. As the world's largest aerospace company, Boeing continues to expand its product line and services to meet emerging customer needs.



The Business Climate Award was presented to Middle Market Entrepreneurs and Colorado PTAC.

The Middle Market Entrepreneurs group contributes to the success of mid-size companies by engaging their executives in forums that explore tailored, market-relevant topics chosen to engage the subject matter expert panel and all participants in lively discussion. Colorado PTAC assists companies wanting to do business with government by offering no-fee, confidential counseling on selling products or services to the appropriate government agency. The staff has experience in government acquisition and is available to counsel throughout the entire procurement process.



Middle Market Entrepreneurs Group and Colorado PTAC -- Business Climate Awards

The Company to Watch Award was presented to TechWise, a privately woman-owned company, dedicated to bringing world-class technical and professional services to government and commercial clients. Headquartered in Colorado Springs, TechWise operates in six additional states. Established in 1994, it has grown into a corporation with highly qualified and experienced military analysts, technical experts, service providers, and management staff.



Excellence in Local Industry Awards, Continued

The Community Investment Award was presented to the Hewlett Packard Colorado Springs Data Center. This high-density, state-of-the-art facility enables HP clients to deploy their IT business environments with a full range of HP Converged Infrastructure technology supported by HP Enterprise Services. The data center, combined with the support team and infrastructure, provides a new growth opportunity and the Colorado Springs site and local community.



The Pioneer Award was presented to the MITRE Corporation, a not-for-profit organization that provides systems engineering, research and development, and information technology support to the United States government. MITRE celebrated its 50th anniversary in Colorado Springs this year and it is the largest site outside the company's headquarters. MITRE has an international reputation for technical excellence and innovation.

The Local Industry Chairperson Award was presented to Colorado Association for Manufacturing and Technology (CAMT). CAMT is a statewide manufacturing assistance center, that provides expertise in results-driven methodologies, best practices, and innovative technologies designed to increase profitability. In the last eight years, CAMT has engaged with 23 companies in El Paso County to provide productivity and growth services project work. CAMT has partnered with EDC and worked closely with the Local Industry team on several recent projects.



The EDC Chairperson Award was presented to MIND Studios, a product invention, design and prototyping facility at UCCS. MIND Studios provides low cost design and engineering services to entrepreneurial individuals and small companies while giving students real work experiences. MIND Studios has helped more than 30 inventors turn their dreams into reality.

The International Award was presented to Harloff, a locally-owned company which provides both in-house design and engineering, and outside consultation since 1951. Evolving from designing and manufacturing the world's first maid service product cart to its current line of medical carts, the company offers ingenuity, quality and attention to serve it's world-wide customer base.





CELEBRATE TECHNOLOGY AWARDS



The Entrepreneur of the Year Award was presented to Marcus Boggs, CEO of CEA Technologies. Marcus started a medical device company in the late 1980's, bought a Colorado Springs company and merged the two to form the predecessor of CEA Technologies in 1990. He has led CEA to a worldwide reputation for quality in manufacturing high-end devices and a favored partner with multiple Fortune 20 medical device companies.

The Inventor of the Year Award was presented to Terrance Boulton, PhD, who is the El Pomar Endowed Chair of Innovation and Security and Professor of Computer Science at UCCS. Dr. Boulton has nine patented inventions with eight other patent applications pending. He also is the co-founder, CEO/CTO of Securics, Inc., a Colorado Springs company addressing security and biometrics technology.



The Security & Defense Technology Company Award was presented to Amegint Technologies, which specializes in data and equipment that is used in satellite ground systems. Amegint's products and engineering deliver the combined knowledge and experience of its employees, who have spent many years designing and developing space system equipment. The company also has seasoned and exceptional management and leadership, and has experienced extraordinary growth since its inception in 2008.



Celebrate Technology Awards, Continued

The Manufacturing Company Award was presented to Chromatic Technologies, Inc, which originated in a dorm room at Cornell University almost 20 years ago. CTI develops and manufactures reactive inks and dyes. Its thermochromic metal decorating inks are currently used on Coors' "Cold Activated Cans" in the United States. It is also developing several security applications, and innovative developments for healthcare focused on cancer research and nanotechnology. The company has three issued patents and three patents pending.



The Biomedical & Bioscience Technology Company of Award was presented to Spectranetics. The company develops, manufactures, markets and distributes single-use medical devices used in minimally invasive procedures within the cardiovascular system. Spectranetics has experienced significant growth over the last five years, with products being sold in 40 countries.

The Information & Communication Technology Company Award was presented to Altia, founded in 2001 by four former Hewlett Packard embedded systems developers. Altia provides a broad range of software that enables customers to go from the artist's imagination to the lowest cost hardware in the shortest amount of time. The company also provides graphic design and engineering services to jump start projects for automotive, medical, fitness and home appliance manufacturers.





COLORADO
COMPANIES TO WATCH

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!



Neumann Systems Group, Rivada Networks, and Cetis ~ 2010 Colorado Companies to Watch

In 2011 the *State of Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade* presented their “Colorado Companies to Watch” award to 3 Colorado Springs Companies: Cetis, Neumann Systems Group, and Rivada Networks.

Colorado Companies to Watch is an awards program honoring second-stage companies headquartered in the state of Colorado. These companies demonstrate high performance in the marketplace or exhibit innovative products or processes. The awards program is designed to seek businesses from a wide range of industries throughout the state, not just the major metropolitan areas. This is not an award of the “top” or “best” companies – the companies selected each year make an astounding impact on Colorado’s economy by collectively providing thousands of jobs and contributing millions of dollars of revenue. In short, they tell a compelling story about the state’s diverse economic landscape.

Colorado Companies to Watch energizes the state of Colorado by recognizing second-stage companies that are developing valuable products and services, creating quality jobs, enriching communities, and creating new industries throughout the state. Second-stage companies fuel the economic fire of Colorado by accounting for much of the economic growth and economic independence of individuals throughout the state. Typically, these companies possess attributes such as:

- Growth focused
- Privately-held, headquartered in Colorado
- 6 to 99 full-time equivalent employees
- \$750,000 to %50 million in sales or a similar range of working capital



Cetis manufactures telephones designed for hotel, hospital, university, government and general business applications. The company developed the first line-powered Caller ID telephone, and the first H2000 Series single-use hospital patient room telephones designed to reduce hospital cross-contamination risks, cleaning and repair costs. Focus on product innovation and customer care has enabled Cetis to grow from a company that specialized in guestroom telephones to one that offers an ever-expanding line of telephone products and services to a wide range of corporate, university and hospitality clients.



Neumann Systems Group, Inc. is a technology and product development company that focuses on product prototyping of gas-liquid contractor systems for chemical processing and emissions control. Current large-scale projects include a pilot plant for flue gas emissions control including greenhouse gases. The company's successful completion of more than 40 government contracts, with focus on optical physics and physical chemistry, led to two years on Inc. Magazine's list of the 500 fastest-growing companies in the country.



Rivada Networks is a leading designer, integrator and operator of wireless, interoperable public safety communications networks. The company provides advanced communications solutions to First Responders at local, state and federal levels. Rivada's leading-edge wireless solutions effectively eliminate the need for expensive radio tower-based infrastructures. Rivada is focused on delivering wireless, cellular voice, video and data in the immediate aftermath of a major incident, when all other communications infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed.

Additional Company Profiles



Since 1966, Entegris has been a provider of critical products and materials used in advanced high-technology manufacturing. These products and materials are often used to make the building blocks of many of the world's most complex microelectronic products, such as computers, mobile devices and phones, data storage components, televisions and monitors, and automobiles. With research and development, customer service, analytical labs, and manufacturing in Asia-Pacific, North America, and Europe, Entegris supports customers around the globe as they take technology to the next level. Headquartered in Billerica, Massachusetts, Entegris employs approximately 2,600 people, in 33 locations worldwide. The company employs 160 locally.

n e x g e n pharma®

Nexgen Pharma specializes in the development and manufacture of solid dose, powder and liquid Rx drugs, Medical Foods, OTC drugs and dietary supplements. Nexgen Pharma has an 80+ year history of manufacturing pharmaceutical and nutritional products with a rigorous commitment to quality and customer satisfaction. The company has five facilities located in Irvine, California and Colorado Springs, Colorado which total more than 325,000 square feet of manufacturing, laboratory and warehouse/distribution space. Nexgen Pharma partners with customers to create value with superior quality assurance and control standards, innovative delivery systems and information based customer support services. Nexgen employs 135 people in Colorado Springs.



Founded in 1970, Skyline Products™ is a leading developer, manufacturer, and provider of top quality electronic signs, control software, solar and fabrication services based on customer needs and input. Skyline's complete facility and all 150+ professional employees are located in Colorado Springs. With an eye on quality and customer service, Skyline Products™ has served as an industry leader by utilizing just in time/lean manufacturing with a state of the art ERP System, including Capacity Resource Planning (CRP), Material Requirements Planning (MRP), and Master Production Scheduling (MPS).

Investment – Grow Your Business as You Help Us Grow the Economy

Your personal and corporate commitment to our community's economic growth and vitality is desperately needed, as the vast majority of our funding comes directly from private enterprise. In other words, from companies just like yours.

Your membership helps EDC attract companies in industry target sectors that are identified as those with growth potential for the region and that pay wages higher than the county average. More importantly, your support provides assistance to local companies through the Local Industry program. Retention and expansion of local primary employers is critical to an economically healthy Colorado Springs. It is reported that 80% of employment growth within a community comes organically. Therefore, the Local Industry program ensures primary employers are looked after and their issues and concerns are addressed in a timely and effective manner.

"The economic health and vitality of our community is driven by the creation and retention of primary jobs. At American National Bank we believe that EDC is the best vehicle to get us there. An investment in EDC is an investment in our community."

- Bill Berenz, Regional President, American National Bank

To learn more about how your company can support this mission, please contact Julie Boswell at (719) 471-8183.

Conclusion

2009/10 was a great year for the EDC and its Local Industry Program. Local Industry was able to meet or exceed all of its 2009/10 goals and objectives. 2009/10 was marked with many specific accomplishments; particularly, efforts that helped several primary employers expand and create jobs. We are proud of the assistance that we provide to our primary employers.

Contact Information



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Rankings

- Colorado Springs **ranked 14th** Safest City in America by FreeBackgroundChecksUSA.com. The survey included comparing crime occurrences, such as violent crime; robbery; aggravated assault; larceny-theft; and motor vehicle theft; to the population of each area. (12/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 15th** brainiest city by Portfolio.com. The study assigned point values to five rungs of an educational ladder, ranging from high-school dropouts to holders of advanced degrees. The score for a given market depended on the percentage of adult residents (25 or older) on each rung. The higher the score, the stronger a market's collective brainpower. (12/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 2nd** "Pet Friendly Cities: America's Best Places to Live with Pets" by Livability.com. Rankings were based on cities with pet friendly parks and trails, quality veterinary care, active animal welfare groups, as well as an abundance of pet boutiques and retail shops. These cities also had to offer an exceptionally high quality of life for the owners who love those pets. From quality healthcare and higher education to diverse job opportunities and active artistic and cultural scenes, these cities are some of the best places to work, live and play in America. (10/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 17th** among mid-size cities readers of AmericanStyle magazine's annual Top 25 Arts Destination poll. A lifestyle publication for arts enthusiasts, collectors and travelers, recognizes the power of the arts in promoting economic development and community revitalization. Through the poll, readers tell where they've been going to view, enjoy and shop for great art. (10/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 6th** on Forbes.com "America's Best Housing Markets For Investors". The rankings were based on populations over 400,000 with a variety of factors, including historic population growth, job growth, housing price changes and the mix of jobs in an area. (09/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 4th** best drivers according to the "Allstate America's Best Drivers Report™" which ranked America's 200 largest cities in terms of car collision frequency to identify which cities have the safest drivers. (09/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 8th** "Safest City for Children" according to Men's Health Magazine. The study was based on accidental death rates for kids ages 5 to 14, number of car-seat inspection locations per child, sex offenders per capita, percentage of abused children protected from further abuse, and the strength of child-restraint laws and bike-helmet laws. (08/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 7th** "Best Mid-Size City" by Portfolio.com. The study was ranked on healthy economies, moderate living costs, light traffic and strong educational systems. Portfolio.com compared 109 medium-sized markets with populations between 250,000 and 750,000. (06/10)
- Colorado continues **to have the lowest** percentage of obese adults at 19.1 percent according to Trust for America's Health. (06/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 19th** "Best City for Families" according to Parenting.com. Cities were ranked based on health, safety, education, economy and recreation. (06/10)
- Colorado Springs has **5 high schools** listed on Newsweek's annual "America's Best High Schools" list. The ranking is based on how hard their staffs work to challenge students with advanced-placement courses and tests. (06/10)
- Colorado Springs was listed in RelocateAmerica.com's "**Top 100** Places to Live in America for 2010". The list focused on communities poised for recovery and future growth. The editorial team discovered communities with strong local leadership, employment opportunities, thriving community commitment, improving real estate markets, growing green initiatives, plentiful recreational options and an overall high quality of life. (05/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 12th** best place for business and careers according to Forbes.com. The annual rankings are based on factors such as cost of doing business, job growth, education attainment and population. (04/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 18th** Friendliest Bike City in America by Bicycling magazine. Editors evaluated cities with 100,000 or more people, with the rankings based on cycling-friendly statistics (numbers of bike lanes and routes, bike racks, city projects completed and planned) and bike culture (number of bike commuters, cycling clubs, cycling events, renowned bike shops). (04/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 4th** Fittest City by Gallup. Gallup's telephone survey, which was conducted between December 29, 2009 and January 2, 2010, calculated average body mass index based on the heights and weights the respondents provided. The study also recorded information of health habits such as eating, exercise and access to health insurance. (03/10)

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Creating Quality Jobs For A Quality Community Since 1971.