

This news bulletin is designed to keep you informed of recent developments in Pasco County Florida, a community of more than 470,000 people in the Tampa Bay Region.

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TWO PASCO COMPANIES NAMED FINALISTS FOR TAMPA BAY BUSINESS JOURNAL'S 2010 FAST 50 AWARDS

Although the economy is still in the doldrums, two local Pasco County companies have caught a tailwind. FreightCenter.com and RevITup Enterprises LLC (dba The Launch Pad) have been named Fast 50 finalists by Tampa Bay Business Journal.

FreighCenter.com is a full-service freight logistics company whose primary focus is using web-based tools to help both businesses and individuals with their freight shipping needs. "Having grown our business online for years, we've remained relatively unknown in the local community, so to be named a finalist for top growing companies in all of Tampa Bay is tremendous," said Sylvia Pankiewicz, Marketing Manager, FreightCenter. FreightCenter is a leading provider of freight solutions and handles and tracks hundreds of shipping transactions daily, with numbers consistently continuing to rise. "We plan on keeping this mindset and increasing our involvement in different organizations to help put Tampa Bay on the map as a thriving business center."

RevITup Enterprises LLC (dba The Launch Pad) is a national business technology solutions provider specializing in fixed-fee managed IT services, managed web services and data backup services and technology planning for small and mid-sized business. The Launch Pad also provides professional services, systems integration, network installations, hardware and software sales through their online store and data cabling services. "I think this year represents a kind of milestone for me and The Launch Pad," said Ilene Rosoff, President. "A number of very exciting changes are coming to fruition including our franchise launch. We are thrilled to be named one of the Tampa Bay Business Journal's Fast 50. It is a testament to the efforts of our very talented and dedicated team."

The Fast 50 recognizes the 50 fastest-growing companies in the Region, based on consecutive annual revenue growth from 2007 to 2009. Among the criteria to make the list is an annual revenue threshold of \$1 million or more in 2009. The final ranking and top winners of the awards will be announced at a luncheon on July 22nd. Tampa Bay Business Journal hosts the event.

PEDC HIRES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Pasco Economic Development Council, Inc. (PEDC) added Sean Malott to its professional staff this month as an Account Executive. Malott started his duties on July 6, 2010. He joins John Hagen, CEcD, President/CEO, John Walsh, CEcD, Vice President, Casey Dearolf, Marketing Specialist, and Suzanne Renczkowski, Office Manager.

Malott brings a diverse business background to this position. He has over 11 years experience in business and leadership. His experience includes 2 years in professional services dedicated to finance, accounting and business process outsourcing, 6 years in real estate as a consultant and business owner, and 3 years as an account manager for an online solutions provider specializing in custom web application development and strategy.

Reporting directly to the Vice President, Malott's responsibilities will be directed toward working with prospective companies on job creation projects as well as execution of workforce development initiatives with local partners and allies.

“We are extremely pleased to have someone with Sean’s knowledge and background. He will be a great asset to our staff,” said John Walsh, PEDC Vice President.

PEDC PARTNERS WITH PASCO HERNANDO WORKFORCE BOARD ON TRAINING AND JOB CREATION



Workforce has been an important element in the PEDC’s efforts to attract new business to Pasco County and grow the ones that are already here. Pasco Hernando Workforce Board/Career Central has approved a new contract with PEDC starting July 1, 2010, to ramp up efforts to meet employers’ training needs.

Key Deliverables for the year include:

- Community coordination and outreach to youth throughout Pasco County Career Academies
- Manufacturing/distribution job fair and promotion of other job fairs held by Career Central
- Assistance to Professional Placement Network in coordinating speakers for meetings
- State of economy and workforce event for Pasco County
- Continuous outreach to Pasco county employers through various channels of communication
- Encouragement of Pasco Employers to utilize job order and placement services through Career Central
- Industry call program consisting of annual visits to primary, targeted industries
- Quarterly surveys to identify workforce trends and training needs
- Focus groups with employers to evaluate services provided by Career Central
- Ten entrepreneur classes for small businesses
- Development of a network to aid entrepreneurs and provide required technical assistance

2010 will be an exciting year for economic and workforce development as we continue to work on several projects, including expansion of the workforce section of our web site, aggressively pursue state funded grants and training opportunities, and improvement of our marketing efforts to provide better services to our Pasco business community.

To learn more about Career Central’s services for in Pasco County, please visit the website www.careercentral.jobs.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP ASSISTANCE NETWORK FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Pasco Economic Development Council (PEDC) staff convened the five Chambers, Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Pasco Hernando Workforce Board and Pasco County Library System to discuss small business assistance. The goal is to offer local businesses assistance in a coordinated fashion; there are many organizations in Pasco working independently. These community partners were brought together to build consensus and create a memorandum of understanding regarding small business assistance.

As a result of the initial meeting, the group agreed to develop a one-stop website, Pasco Enterprise Network, which will be available to anyone thinking about starting a business or needing help in growing a small business. The site is currently under construction and is anticipated to launch next month. More details to come.

BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR PEDC

Pasco Economic Development Council (PEDC) welcomes one new investor and thanks three companies that have renewed their investment in PEDC, the county’s economic development leadership organization: Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa, Bank of America, Cutler Associates, Inc. and Pasco-Hernando Community College.

The financial support of current and new investors demonstrates sustained business commitment to creating economic opportunities in Pasco County. PEDC recruits new businesses to the community and assists businesses already here to expand. It fosters collaboration between investors and community leaders to establish a new economic direction for Pasco County. Making an investment in PEDC helps position Pasco County to attract, retain and create high-value jobs.

Information about PEDC’s new and renewing investors:

Construction Services, Inc. of Tampa provides construction management, general contracting and design/build construction services for commercial, industrial, and particulate controlled environment markets. Fred Lay, President, is the local contact at (813)532-4506 or email at fredlay@csioftampa.com.

Bank of America is one of the world's largest financial institutions, serving individual consumers, small- and middle-market businesses and large corporations with a full range of banking, investing, asset management and other financial and risk management products and services. Melanie Price, Regional Manager, is the key contact at (727)773-8381 or email at melanie.price@bankofamerica.com.

Cutler Associates, Inc. provides design-build, general contracting, construction management, and building information modeling services specializing in corporations, education, senior living, integrated project delivery, tilt-up concrete, and sustainable design and construction. Rick Lentz, Regional Vice President, is the local contact at (813)637-8883 or email at rlentz@cutlerdb.com.

Pasco-Hernando Community College (PHCC) is Florida's newest community college; PHCC combines high tech educational facilities and state-of-the-art programs with an old-fashioned focus on teaching. PHCC provides all the advantages of a private liberal arts education—personalized attention, highly credentialed faculty, an honors program for the academically gifted and small class sizes— all at an affordable public community college price and is accredited by the [Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#). Dr. Katherine Johnson, President, is the college contact at (727)816-3400 or email johnsonk@phcc.edu.

Source: Company Information from website

PASCO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.; A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

PEDC is an organization that promotes countywide economic development. Created in 1987 by a group of dedicated business and community leaders, it continues to be a strong partnership funded by corporate and public investors and focused on the economic vitality of Pasco County.

If you have any questions or comments about the contents of this newsletter, please contact PEDC at (813)920-6480 or cdearolf@pascoedc.com.

