

Steel center coming to Durant

Norfolk Iron & Metal Company is constructing a \$16 million steel distribution facility and offices about ten minutes west of the Quad Cities in Durant, Iowa. Within three years the facility will employ approximately 135 warehouse, office and delivery staff. The Iowa Economic Development Board awarded the project tax benefits from the High Quality Jobs Creation (HQJC) program.

According to Norfolk Iron President Richard Robinson, "We are excited to be a part of this very progressive community and to be able to increase and improve the services we provide to our customers in this geographic area. With the addition of the Durant facility, we will be able to broaden our services to the Wisconsin and Illinois areas, as well as expand our delivery capabilities in Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri."

The Durant division of Norfolk Iron will be situated on 37 acres of land in the Durant Development Park and encompass approximately 250,000 square feet with an extensive inventory and full processing and delivery capabilities. Operations are expected to begin in 10 to 12 months.

Norfolk Iron & Metal Co. is family-owned, operating steel service centers in Norfolk, NE, where it is headquartered, Emporia, KS, and Greeley, CO. The company also has ownership interest in a steel processing facility in Rock Island, IL.

Norfolk Iron & Metal Co. is ranked one of the top 30 largest service centers in the United States.



"I am absolutely committed to doing everything I can to bring high-quality, 21st century jobs to Iowa, and the Google jobs we are announcing today certainly qualify," said Governor Chet Culver, announcing Google's \$600 million data center in Council Bluffs.

Google chooses Council Bluffs for data center

Governor Chet Culver and Google Inc. have jointly announced that the company will open a data center in Council Bluffs to distribute and store massive amounts of information on the Internet. Google Inc., which operates the world's most widely used Internet search engine, is investing \$600 million and will eventually create 200 jobs at the facility powering the company's services.

"We're thrilled to announce our plans for a data center in Council Bluffs, Iowa, which will help us continue to provide our users and customers with the best possible service," said Paul Froutan, Director of Operations, Google Inc. "We look forward to joining the community and are grateful for the support from the state and local governments throughout our evaluation process."

Google's data center is under construction on a 55-acre site at the Council Bluffs Industrial Foundation's new business park and is anticipated to open spring 2009.

Jobs at the Google data center will focus on ensuring that the facility's computers are running at optimum speed and efficiency 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Positions require a variety of skills, ranging from experienced data center managers and Linux administrators to technology assistants. The jobs have an average salary and other benefits averaging \$50,000 per year, creating an annual payroll of about \$10 million.

Earlier Gov. Culver signed a bill upgrading Iowa's tax system related to sales tax, use tax,

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Kellogg distribution expansion

Smith Jones Inc., doing business as Midwest Manufacturing Co., plans to expand distribution operations in the Kellogg from 4,700 to 133,000 sq. ft. by remodeling three existing buildings. The nearly \$700,000 project is expected to create 20 new jobs.

The Economic Development Board awarded \$100,000 from the Community Economic Betterment Account (CEBA) for the expansion. Supplying engine manufacturing companies, Midwest Manufacturing is the primary source in North America for the ring gears used to start engines.

If you would like a confidential discussion of your company expansion, phone a project manager at the Iowa Department of Economic Development at:

515.242.4896

Toll free 800.245.4692

Web site: www.iowalifechanging.com

Bioscience company expands in Ames

Becker-Underwood made the Ames expansion decision as the Economic Development Board awarded the project \$150,000 from the Community Economic Betterment Account (CEBA) and tax benefits from the High Quality Jobs Creation (HQJC) program.

The new 140,000 sq. ft. building is to be constructed about three blocks from Becker-Underwood's corporate headquarters.

The 11 million expansion is expected to create 26 jobs and retain 27 jobs, producing colorants for landscape applications.

A global company, founded in 1982 by Jeff Becker and Roger Underwood, Becker-Underwood produces colorants, coatings and other specialty products for agriculture, crop seeds, landscape and garden uses.



Under construction in north iowa



VeraSun's new ethanol facility under construction west of Hartley was awarded Enterprise Zone tax benefits by the Iowa Department of Economic Development. When the plant is in full operation, it projects to employ 51 persons, provide a market for 39 million bushels of corn annually and produce 110 million gallons of ethanol. Products from the plant, including dried distillers grain, will be shipped to all areas of the United States and internationally as well.

Homegrown Link grows again

A manufacturer of cab suspensions and several other products for the transportation industry is expanding into a new 50,000 sq. ft. building in Sioux Center. Link Manufacturing Ltd. is projected to create 69 new jobs as it increases production in the community where it originated.

The Economic Development Board awarded the project \$241,500 from Community Economic Betterment Account (CEBA) and tax benefits from the High Quality Jobs Creation (HQJC) program.

The new facility will house assembly operations, a new paint system, an expanded engineering test lab and warehousing.

Link was started in 1980 by a local truck driver who wanted a better ride and invented an air suspension system for his truck cab.

New era for Janesville company

W.S. Darley Company has purchased the assets of Ohler Machinery Company, a manufacturer of centrifugal pumps.

Approximately 5,000 to 10,000 sq. ft. and new machinery and equipment will be added to the Janesville facility as part of the \$2.6 million expansion.

The Economic Development Board awarded the expansion \$150,000 from the Community Economic Betterment Account. W. S. Darley is projected to create 14 jobs and retain 10 jobs.

Commenting on the acquisition, Paul Darley, president of W.S. Darley & Co.,

said "The fit is incredible. Ohler offers products that we've been planning to develop, the employees are extremely devoted, the quality is top-notch and there is room for growth."

Ohler Pumps are sold to the U.S. military under federal contracts as well as to the agricultural, industrial, mining and marine industries.

Headquartered in Melrose Park, Illinois, W.S. Darley manufactures fire fighting pumps, compressed air foam systems and other fire fighting apparatus in Wisconsin and Oregon.

First shipment of turbine blades

The first wind turbine blades manufactured at the new Siemens blade factory in Fort Madison, Iowa, left the facility on August 14 bound for a wind farm near Abilene, Texas, where Siemens has sold 35 turbines.

Each blade is 148 feet long, nearly the width of an American football field and weighs approximately 12 tons. The Iowa Department of Economic Development awarded incentives to Siemens to locate its first U.S. manufacturing plant in Fort Madison.

"By expanding our wind turbine blade manufacturing capacity in the U.S., we are able to play a more significant role in helping the U.S. meet its growing electricity demand with clean wind energy and zero carbon emissions. We are looking forward to serving the growing wind energy industry in the U.S., which is expected to triple by 2020," said Randy Zwirn, president and CEO of Siemens Power Generation, Inc.

Siemens expects to employ approximately 400 people in its growing U.S. wind business by the end of September 2007.



SIEMENS SHIPS BLADES FROM FT. MADISON

The first wind turbine blades manufactured at the new IDEE recruited factory in Fort Madison leave for a wind farm installation near Abilene, Texas. Each Siemens blade weighs about 12 tons.

Biofuels create new logistics industry

With the recent completion of a three-million-gallon ethanol storage tank, Manly Terminal LLC has taken another step to becoming the common delivery point for ethanol trading and distribution throughout North America.



The \$13-million biofuels storage and shipping terminal in the north Iowa community of Manly will eventually store 20 million gallons. The project was awarded High Quality Job Creation (HQJC) tax benefits from the Iowa Department of Economic Development to create 66 jobs.

Unlike petroleum products such as oil and natural gas, ethanol cannot be distributed through pipelines due to its chemical makeup and attraction to water. As a result, ethanol moves from production to market by utilizing truck, rail and barge transportation services.

"The key to effectively manage the logistics is to coordinate this unique movement of product, and Manly Terminal is positioned to do just that," says Dan Sabin, president and owner of the Iowa Northern Railway.

"Our rail system of unit trains, consisting of 65 or more tank cars, is a faster, more efficient and more economical way to ship ethanol than utilizing a few tank cars at a time."

The project is a partnership among the Iowa Northern Railway, L.B. Transport of Buffalo Center, Iowa, and KAG Ethanol Logistics.

CALENDAR

- September 7-20 Iowa trade mission to Japan & China
- October 10 Iowa Venture Capital & Entrepreneur Conference
Des Moines
- October 17-19 Biofuels & Biofoods,
Norman E. Borlaug
International Symposium
Des Moines

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and property tax for computer related businesses. The state legislature's work exempts the electricity and capital investment necessary for this kind of a facility from sales tax, as is common in the manufacturing sector.

"We are very proud to welcome Google to Iowa," said Governor Chet Culver. "In making its decision, Google recognized what we

in Iowa have known all along – our workforce and quality of life is second-to-none."

"We are very pleased that Google selected Council Bluffs for such a large investment," said Bob Mundt, President and CEO of the Council Bluffs Area Chamber of Commerce.

"I think it demonstrates that all the hard work the community has put in to make Council Bluffs an attractive place for business has paid off."

Assisting Ruthven success

Ruthven, a community of about 700 people in northwest Iowa, was awarded incentives from the Iowa Department of Economic Development to assist a growing manufacturing company, Farmers Corrugated Solutions.

Focused on making a new and innovative "green" product, Farmers Corrugated Solutions is creating 116 jobs, expanding into a new building and purchasing automated equipment to manufacture shipping pallets from cardboard instead of wood.

The expansion was awarded \$410,000 from the Economic Development Set-Aside (EDSA) program and Enterprise Zone tax benefits.

Farmers Corrugated Solutions bought a company in Arkansas that made cardboard pallets in 2006 and moved production to Ruthven. Corrugated shipping pallets are lighter in weight, equally strong and easier to configure and recycle than wood pallets for many shipping purposes.

GOOGLE'S DATA CENTER:

Investment:	\$600 million
Facilities:	Two (first 100,000 sq. ft.)
Sites:	1,185 acres
Location:	Council Bluffs near MidAmerican Energy power plant
Jobs:	200
Average annual salary:	\$50,000
Annual payroll:	\$10 million
Company:	Fortune magazine's number one place to work
Opening:	Spring 2009

IOWA'S TAX INCENTIVES FOR DATA CENTERS:

Governor Culver signed legislation enacting a sales tax and property tax exemption for cooling systems, power infrastructure, generators, electricity and other equipment for web search portals that invest at least \$200 million.