

E-News for the International Community

... an update on community and economic development in Racine County, WI and the Chicago–Milwaukee corridor.



The Roadmap

Racine County Economic Development Corporation
2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant, Racine County, Wisconsin USA
www.racinecountyedc.org

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The RCEDC periodically provides information on economic development in Racine County and the Chicago-Milwaukee corridor. We hope you find this short publication helpful and informative.

SAVE THE DATE!

**RCEDC Annual
Celebration**

May 29, 2008

25 Years!

Focus on Business Parks, Racine County, Wisconsin USA

Burlington Manufacturing and Office Park

Location: State Trunk Highway 83, south of Burlington
31 miles southwest of Milwaukee / 15 miles north of the Wisconsin/Illinois line
35 minutes to Milwaukee's General Mitchell International Airport
65 minutes to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport

Available Acres: 12 Acres

Price/Acre: \$27,500 - \$31,000 per acre

Zoning: M-3 manufacturing and office park

Residents: Burlington Business Center, Circle Inc., Hi-Liter Graphics, RexCon LLC, Scherrer Construction, Veteran's Transport, Wheel Specialties Inc.

Contact: **RCEDC**

Telephone: (262) 898-7424

Email: jtrick@racinecountyedc.org

Website: www.racinecountyedc.org

Forbes names Milwaukee one of U.S.'s "Top 10 Up-And-Coming Tech Cities"

From biztimes.com - Forbes magazine has named Milwaukee to its list of [Top 10 Up-And Coming Tech Cities](#). The magazine reports that, "globalization and poor training may have gutted America's manufacturing base, but stalwart metal-bender Milwaukee is not backing down. Some places believe that manufacturing is dead or dying. We don't," says Jim Paetsch, director of corporate relocation, expansion and attraction at [Milwaukee 7](#), [a seven county] economic development organization. Manufacturing is

certainly different today than it was even 10 years ago. Our strategy is to become the leading global center for the technology-intensive manufacturing enterprises of the future.”

\$120M in venture deals tracked by Angel Network

The Wisconsin Angel Network (WAN) has reportedly tracked \$120M in venture deals in 2007 according to an article from the [Wisconsin Technology Network](#). WAN maintains that many deals go unreported and that this number, \$120M, does not reflect the total deals that happened within the state.

The Milwaukee World Trade Association presents: GROWING GLOBALLY 44th Annual Wisconsin International Trade Conference

Tuesday, May 13, 2008 (8:30 AM - 6:00 PM)
Italian Community Center, 631 E Chicago St. Milwaukee, WI

A quick overview of the event includes:

Morning Sessions Session 1: China Session 2: U.S. Export Compliance
WI Overseas Reps - All day one-on-one meetings

Lunch Session

Afternoon Sessions Session 1: Canada Session 2: Best Practices in International Distributor Management
Session 3: Midwestern Strategies for a Global Economy

Reception

Click here for [more information](#) or here for [registration](#)

Wisconsin investment climate may be warming

The [Wisconsin Technology Network](#) outlines the current situation with venture capital and angel investors in the State. Wisconsin currently has 18 formal angel networks, 17 of which are members of the [Wisconsin Angel Network](#), an umbrella group organized three years ago through the Wisconsin Technology Council and state government. This group provides an automated “deal-flow pipeline” and related services. The rise in angel investing across Wisconsin has been accompanied by more activity by other private equity investors, as well.

Local success story, [Comic Wonder](#), which attracted angel investors through the Wisconsin Early Stage Symposium in November noted, “There has been a sea change in terms of receptivity among [Wisconsin] angels. We've done a really good job as a state of cultivating that community, and helping to put good deals in front of [investors].”

Immelt advises American companies to go green now

American companies such as manufacturers, distributors and builders that do not embrace and invest in green Technologies now will soon be at a competitive disadvantage, according to Jeffrey Immelt, chief executive officer and chairman of General Electric Co. [Biztimes.com](#) writes about how Immelt joined several other top corporate executives and venture capitalists at The Wall Street Journal's 2007 [Eco:nomics Conference](#) in Santa Barbara, California.

Governor Doyle Launches Clean Energy Wisconsin

A plan for Energy Independence

March 25, 2008 – Governor Jim Doyle launched Clean Energy Wisconsin, his strategy to strengthen Wisconsin's energy future. This comprehensive plan moves Wisconsin forward by promoting renewable energy, creating new jobs, increasing energy security and efficiency, and improving the environment. . .

Governor Doyle also announced today that the Department of Commerce will soon begin taking applications from businesses and researchers for financial assistance from the new Wisconsin Energy Independence Fund. The application period for the first round of funding will run from April 1 to June 2, 2008. The department expects to award \$15 million annually in grants and loans for research and development, commercialization or adoption of new technologies, and supply chain development.

For the full press release, please go to the Wisconsin Department of Commerce:
<http://commerce.wi.gov/NEWS/releases/2008/042.html>

For application materials and more information about the Wisconsin Energy Independence Fund and a program fact sheet, visit <http://commerce.wi.gov/renewableenergy>.

Visit the Office of Energy Independence website <http://power.wisconsin.gov> for news and information on clean energies in Wisconsin, including information on other state programs, federal grants/incentives, and private monies available for clean energy and fuel related projects.

The Roadmap is an e-newsletter of the RCEDC. For more information, please visit www.racinecountyedc.org.
If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email chenning@racinecountyedc.org with *Unsubscribe* as the subject.