

North Brevard Business Review



*A quarterly review of business news in Mims, Port St. John, Scottsmeer, and Titusville, Florida
Published by the North Brevard Economic Development Zone (NBEDZ) • Brevard County, Florida*

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January 2020

NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENTS

Engineered Bonding Solutions, LLC, a chemical processing manufacturer of structural adhesives, has announced plans to purchase a 4.5-acre lot in the Spaceport Commerce Park in Titusville for the construction of a new 20,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility. The project, including new capital equipment installation and a state-of the-art mixing and packaging system, is expected to cost approximately \$1.5 million. Engineered Bonding is best known for its product, *ACRA Lock*, which is designed to chemically adhere to most surfaces, including steel, aluminum, engineered plastics, and high-performance composites; it's primarily used as an adhesive in the marine industry, but also has applications in aerospace and aviation. The company, which currently employs 19 people, anticipates the creation of 15 new jobs, once the facility is fully operational. For more information on the company, visit www.acralock.com.

JMW Consolidated, a Jacksonville-based firm that designs, fabricates, and assembles fire suppression systems, has announced plans to purchase a 5-acre lot in the Spaceport Commerce Park, a planned business park development located near State Road 407 and Interstate 95 in southwest Titusville. Through its operating units, including MJW Engineering, the company performs work for numerous industrial and commercial enterprises, like Blue Origin and Praxair, along with government and institutional leaders, such as the U.S. Department of Defense and NASA. The new 15,000 sq. ft. facility, which will include a pipe fabrication operation, is expected to cost approximately \$2 million and employ more than 15 people. To learn more about the company, click on www.mjwood.com.

Dozier Crane, a Savannah, Georgia-based distributor and leasing firm for cranes used in construction and manufacturing projects, has taken possession of a 10,000 sq. ft. facility on State Road 405, to serve as its Central Florida servicing center for equipment rentals and repairs. The operation is expected to employ a number of technicians and sales professionals. The company, which began business in 1974, is an authorized dealer of Terex, Manitowoc, Kobelco, Shuttlelift, and other international and domestic brands; it services customers throughout the continental United States, and in more than 49 foreign companies. Additional information on the business can be found at www.doziercrane.com.

Dozier Crane is one of several industrial and service-sector firms located on or near State Road 405, a roadway in Titusville known as South Street. The "South Street Business District" is an area that

includes a diverse array of businesses – from boat builders Gheen Manufacturing (makers of the *Ghenoe* water craft) to the wood products firm, Truss Wood. For more information on this business district and available industrial properties in the area, schedule a meeting with NBEDZ staff at www.NBEDZ.org.

LeNginer, a small federal contracting and engineering firm started in Titusville by local entrepreneur Tuan Le in 2014, has announced plans to purchase a dilapidated structure on U.S. Highway 1 south of Cheney Highway for the location for a new venture, **LeNnovation**. The 8,000 sq. ft. building, which has been vacant since 2015, is expected to be renovated into office and light industrial use for work on drone technology. The company is currently designing an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) for rapid deployment and use in the military, construction, and service-sector industries; integrated with Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) technology, the drones produced by LeNnovation will be able to gather data on specific sites, whether a military target or a building construction lot. Through its parent, LeNginer, work has already been completed for the U.S. Navy Fleet Ballistic Missile (FBM) program. The LeNnovation project is expected to cost approximately \$2 million over the next three years, and employ more than 25 people. For more information about the company, visit www.LeNginer.com.

Work was recently completed on a 10,000 sq. ft. addition to **Aero Electronics**, a manufacturer of military and aerospace cables, harnesses, and electronic assemblies. Founded in 2005 by Joanne Griffin, who serves as the firm's CEO and president, the company currently employs more than 20 people; it has been located in a U.S. Small Business Administration HUB Zone for over ten years. To learn more, follow this link www.aeroelectronics.net.

SPOTLIGHT ON: ACT 2 Technologies

Located in a multi-tenant industrial center in Titusville's Spaceport Commerce Park, **ACT 2 Technologies** is a manufacturer of equipment and components used in the reclamation of water. Started in Ft. Lauderdale by entrepreneurs Craig and Mary Tafoya, the company has patented technology that uses a close loop remediation method to purify water, making it possible to recycle water from toilets and irrigation systems. The technology has been primarily used in marine environments, like luxury yachts and cruise liners, but has recently been applied to gas and oil drilling platforms in the ocean. The company's wastewater discharge systems have been used in restroom facilities at mobile U.S. Army bases and installations. For more on ACT 2, visit www.act2tech.org.

ANNUAL REPORT ON NASA'S KENNEDY SPACE CENTER AVAILABLE

NASA's Kennedy Space Center (KSC), located directly across the Indian River Lagoon from Titusville in North Brevard County, recently released its [2019 Annual Report](#), listing the significant events that took place at KSC over the last year; it also details the center's progress toward the goal of becoming a fully-functioning, international multi-user spaceport. In addition to commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo Moon landing, the report highlights several milestones reached by private aerospace firms over the last year, as those groups, in tandem with the center, work to once again launch astronauts from KSC and Titusville. To read the report, visit www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy.

RAIDER OUTBOARDS MAKES “Companies to Watch” LIST

Titusville-based **Raider Outboards**, a manufacturer of high-performance outboard engines, has been selected by GrowFL as one of the state’s “Companies to Watch,” an annual recognition of GrowFL and the Edward Lowe Foundation. The list recognizes those second-stage, Florida-based companies that are helping to diversify the state’s manufacturing economy through job creation and capital investment expenditures. [Second stage companies are defined as those with less than 150 full-time employees, and annual revenue between \$750,000 and \$100 million.] Only five companies from Brevard County were named to the list. The company, founded by George Woodruff in 2015, was named after an elite Marine Corps unit – *the Raiders* – which was formed during the Second World War to conduct amphibious light infantry warfare. At its Titusville facility, the company makes lightweight, two-cylinder engines, specifically designed for use by the military; the engines can be completely submerged in water without bags, through the use of a de-watering system. To learn more about this “company to watch,” visit www.raideroutboards.com.

GrowFL supports the growth of second-stage companies throughout Florida, by connecting companies with the resources and business-to-business relationships needed to move to the next stage of business development. Information on the organization is available at www.growFL.com.

COWORKING SPACE GRADUATE PARTNERS WITH HP

Orbits Edge, a software engineering firm that began operations in 2018 in Titusville’s cowork space, COlaunch, recently announced a partnership with **Hewlett Packard Enterprise**, or HPE. Orbits Edge provides commercial access to data center-grade computing and analytics in low Earth orbit – essentially, a data center in space. The company plans to use HPE’s Edgeline Converged Edge System in a hardened satellite, micro data center platform, termed “SatFrame.” Its commercial application will likely be realized in the communications, weather forecasting, and navigation fields. Additional information can be found at the company’s website: www.orbitsedge.com.

ECONOMIC BOXSCORE

The table below shows the latest economic statistics for the northern part of Brevard County, Florida (principally the communities of Mims, Port St. John, Scottsmoor, and Titusville), according to seasonally unadjusted figures from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (Local Area Unemployment Statistics, or LAUS).

	Current Year (Nov 2019)	Previous Year (Nov 2018)	Percent Change
County Unemployment Rate	2.8%	3.2%	
County Labor Force Size	285,519	277,669	2.83%
Titusville Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.4%	
Titusville Labor Force Size	21,726	21,132	2.81%
State Unemployment Rate	2.7%	3.3%	
State Labor Force Size	10,479,000	10,293,000	1.81%

The Space Coast Board of REALTORS reported in November that “closed home sales” were up 17.9%, with 805 units closed, compared to just 683 in November 2018. “New pending sales” were also up, to 22.8% over the previous year. The median sales price for a Brevard single family home was up 6.5% (at \$240,000), compared to last year’s \$225,295 figure. “Months supply of inventory” of homes for sale was down by 20%, from 3.5 months a year ago to 2.8 months in November 2019. For additional information on key economic statistics for the North Brevard area, please visit www.NBEDZ.org and www.SpaceCoastMLS.com.

AVAILABLE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

39.83 acres, at the intersection of State Road (SR) 405 and SR 407 in Titusville, approximately 15 minutes from NASA’s Kennedy Space Center, and only minutes from Space Coast Regional Airport. With current zoning and future land use designation, site could accommodate light industrial, warehousing, or retail development. Site features 1900 linear feet of road frontage along SR 405, a thoroughfare that has an annual daily traffic count of 16,100 vehicles. Listing agent: Trevor Hall of Colliers. Contact info: 407-362-6173, or trevor.hall@colliers.com.

ABOUT NORTH BREVARD AND THE ZONE

Located in coastal, east central Florida, the region known as North Brevard is an approximately 200-square mile area of Brevard County that includes the communities of Mims, Port St. John, Scottsmoor, and the City of Titusville. Bordered by the St. John’s River to the west and the Indian River Lagoon and Atlantic Ocean to the east, the region has a population of more than 145,000. With an economy based upon a mixture of aerospace, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, boating, and tourism, the region is the home to **NASA’s** famed **Kennedy Space Center** and to world-class firms such as **Boeing, Barn Light Electric, Blue Origin, Embraer S.A., VectorWorks, OneWeb Satellites,** and **Gold Tones Musical Instruments**. Information about the region’s “quality of life” is available at www.greatertitusville.com.

The **North Brevard Economic Development Zone (NBEDZ)**, created in July 2011 by the Brevard County (Florida) Board of County Commissioners, is a Special Dependent District under Florida Statutes, Chapters 125 and 189. The Zone was formed with the goal of facilitating job growth and economic development in the northern part of Brevard County following the end of NASA’s Space Shuttle program. In that regard, it seeks to provide assistance to businesses prepared to make a substantial capital investment in the area and create a significant number of new jobs. To view the Zone’s written Economic Development Plan and eligibility criteria for program participation, visit www.NBEDZ.org.

THE NORTH BREVARD BUSINESS REVIEW is published quarterly by the North Brevard Economic Development Zone. All information provided is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Please address any comments or questions to Troy Post, CECD, CBE, at 321-960-1458, or electronically via troy.post@brevardFL.gov, or send me your comments telepathically. Don’t worry; I’ll receive them.



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