



CORE INDUSTRIES		REGIONAL DATA		MAP ROOM		PARTNERSHIP BLOG		CONTACT US	
ADAMS	ALLEN	DEKALB	HUNTINGTON	LAGRANGE	NOBLE	STEBEN	WABASH	WELLS	WHITLEY

NEW INVESTMENT

NEW BUSINESS

**Cinergy Metronet**

COUNTY

Huntington

[more info](#)

EXPANSIONS

**General Motors Co.**

COUNTY

Allen

[more info](#)

**Busche**

Noble

[more info](#)

**Busche**; Additional Expansion

Noble

[more info](#)

**Warner Electric**

Whitley

[more info](#)

**A.K. Furniture Distribution**

Allen

[more info](#)

**JH Specialty**

Allen

[more info](#)

**Brotherhood Mutual**

Allen

[more info](#)

**Good Humor-Breyers Ice Cream**

Huntington

[more info](#)

**Advanced Engineering**

Huntington

[more info](#)

NEWS & UPDATES

BUSINESS NEWS

**Employment Gains in the Region**

General Motors Co. announced Tuesday that it will add a third shift and 700 jobs to its Allen County assembly plant by April. Employment at the Allen County plant peaked this year around 2,700, but after two rounds of buy-outs, cuts in the salaried workforce and normal attrition, the head count at the Allen County plant stands at 2,400. The addition of a shift will bring the workforce up to about 3,100 - the most the plant has ever employed. [read more](#)

**Indiana's Business Tax Climate Improving**

Indiana's growing national reputation as a great state to do business has received another boost. The state moved up two places in the Tax Foundation's 2010 Business Tax Climate Index for business tax climate. Indiana is 12th overall, up from 14th in 2009, and remains the top state in the Midwest for business tax competitiveness. [read more](#)

**Area Businesses Gain Access to Procurement Assistance**

A Procurement Technical Assistance Center, or PTAC, has opened in Fort Wayne. Most services provided by this center will be free. The center is headed by a Fort Wayne executive with more than 40 years of experience in defense contracting. The procurement center is part of an older company, Partners In Contracting Corp., that does the same thing in northwest Indiana. The Indiana Small Business Development Center is working with that company to support PTAC. PTAC will provide many services for clients: helping with market research, reviewing and bidding on solicitations, making them aware of contract performance requirements, and offering training so clients can understand the market of government contracting. [read more](#)

GOING GREEN

**Northeast Indiana Communities Receive Environmental Excellence Awards**

The cities of Ligonier and Fort Wayne have received recognition for their environmental awareness. Representatives from both cities accepted their awards during the Indiana Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence ceremony, which recognizes Indiana's leaders who have identified and implemented innovative

COUNTY UPDATES

ALLEN

Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company announced today that it is expanding its Fort Wayne operations. Brotherhood Mutual could save approximately \$563,365 on real and personal property taxes over a ten year period, as well as a \$65,000 grant from the City of Fort Wayne. The company is also eligible for \$25,000 in recruitment and assessment services, \$75,000 in job-specific training and \$10,000 in computer training services from WorkOne Northeast. The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) will provide \$700,000 in Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) tax credits and \$100,000 from the Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF). [more](#)

JH Specialty has announced that it will expand its Fort Wayne operations to 6030 Huguenard Road. The professional services company, with the assistance of Hilltrans, LLC, will invest approximately \$870,000 and create over 30 new jobs. The company could realize \$193,018 in real and personal property tax savings over a ten year period if the request is approved by the City of Fort Wayne. JH Specialty will also receive a \$9,000 grant from the city's CEDIT incentive pool. [more](#)

LAGRANGE

The LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation will be holding an open house on October 15, 2009 at the LCEDC office, 304 North Townline Road in LaGrange, IN from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The event will allow visitors the

chance to tour the newly renovated LCEDC offices, ask any questions, and learn how the LCEDC has worked with existing businesses to grow in LaGrange County as well as how they have worked to market LaGrange County to attract new businesses. Any further information can be obtained by contacting the Administrative Assistant, Allyson Schreiber, by email: [aschreiber@lagrangepcountyeedc.com](mailto:aschreiber@lagrangepcountyeedc.com) or by calling (260) 499-4994.

Ligonier was recognized for achievements in the "Recycling/Reuse" category for recycling and reusing materials from the demolition of a three-story building located on the four acre former Essex Wire brownfield site. In addition to conserving building materials that could have gone to the landfill, 30 additional jobs were also created in this effort. Fort Wayne was presented with an award for achievements in the category of "Land Use" during for the city's redevelopment of a downtown brownfield site into Parkview Field for the Fort Wayne Tin Caps minor league baseball team which included the construction of an 880-space parking garage. [Read more-Ligonier](#) [Read more-Fort Wayne](#)

### **Ligonier to Receive Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Honor**

Ligonier announced that it will receive a commendation from Region 5 of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its brownfield's division. The award was earned for the city's work in rehabilitating two brownfield sites. Both were former factories, built in the 19th century, that either have been torn down or cleared of hazardous materials. This honor comes less than a week after the city picked up a Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence in Indianapolis from the state department of environmental management. [Read more-EPA Honor](#)

### **Fort Wayne Businesses Earn Green City Business Certification**

City businesses continue to embrace the concept of going "green." Eight additional businesses have achieved Green City Business certification. The Green City Business program is designed to help businesses and organizations voluntarily adopt more environmentally friendly business practices and save on energy costs. In the initial year of the Green City Business program 61 Fort Wayne businesses enrolled in training programs. The next free Green City Business training session is Wednesday, October 7, 2009. Registration is required and available online at [www.cityoffortwayne.org/energy/gb](http://www.cityoffortwayne.org/energy/gb) or by contacting Julia Gorrell at 427-6059. [Read more](#)

### **LaGrange County Commits Support for Wind Turbines**

LaGrange County Commissioners agreed to add their support to a company's goal to install wind energy turbines on property owned by local residents. Topeka is one of three locations in Indiana ideal for wind energy, he said. Preliminary tests estimate wind capacity, or the time the turbines will be running at full power, to be around 34 percent. About 75 percent of Topeka landowners targeted, including many Amish farmers, have already signed up for the project, according to Stroup, and nearly 2,600 acres and four square miles of land have been made available. The commissioners unanimously agreed to support Pioneer Winds by drafting a letter that states the county supports the company and will help financially with the project. [Read more](#)

### **Allen County to Receive Energy Grant**

The Allen County Commissioners' Office received notification of a \$404,500 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant award from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The grant covers a three-year period of performance and represents the entire amount of funding sought by the County. \$70,000 of the grant will be used to conduct energy audits at 18 county-owned buildings which officials have determined possess certain energy inefficiencies. Once the results of the audit are known, the County will use \$284,500 of the grant to fund a number of energy efficient and cost-effective projects at those buildings. The remaining \$50,000 of the grant will be used to replace five vehicles in the County Building Department fleet with hybrid vehicles. [Read more](#)

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## **EVENTS OF INTEREST**

### **Business and Education Summit, Oct. 29**

WorkOne Northeast and its supporting partners are pleased to invite you to the Business and Education Summit on October 29, 2009 at the Marriott Hotel in Fort Wayne. This year's event will engage school executive leaders who have the capacity to explore the future of Indiana's learning through project-based learning, New Tech High Schools, dual credit opportunities, Project Lead The Way Schools, STEM and Early College High Schools. Visit [WorkOne's web site](#) for information about the Summit and to register, please contact Anne Meadors at [AMeadors@WorkOneNE.org](mailto:AMeadors@WorkOneNE.org) or 260.459.1400 ext. 4504. Registration is due Thursday, October 15. Seating is limited.

### **III Business Outlook Panel, Nov. 18**

or by calling (260) 499-4994.

## **HUNTINGTON**

The Common Council for the City of Huntington unanimously approved a request for tax abatement from Good Humor-Breyers as they plan an investment of \$6,000,000. The investment will allow the facility to retain 193 incumbent workers and will create 7 new positions. [more](#)

The Common Council for the City of Huntington approved a tax abatement request from M & S Industrial Metal Fabricators as they prepare to invest \$500,000 for new equipment which will allow the company to maintain its competitive edge in the marketplace and retain 71 workers. [more](#)

Cinergy MetroNet purchased real estate from HCUED to develop their "utility hut" in connection with a \$10 million fiber optic system in Huntington.

## **NOBLE**

An Albion-based company has announced that it will be adding 40 new jobs as a result of a new contract. Busche and Maumee, Ohio-based Dana Holding Corp. and its subsidiaries - Buyer Traction, RAW Material Purchasing and Supply Chain Co-op - announced Wednesday that Busche has been selected to machine and assemble steering knuckle assemblies for the Ford P-473 program for all F-250, -350 and -450 trucks. The contract calls for Busche to provide a total of 12 different safety-critical steering knuckle assemblies for as long as Dana maintains the project. It will establish 40 new jobs requiring 11 computer-numeric controls and four presses. [more](#)

## **WHITLEY**

Steel Tank and Fabricating (STAFCO) recently expanded their facility, which doubles the size of the production

**3rd Annual Business Outlook Panel, Nov. 18**  
The Northeast Indiana Chapter of the IU Alumni Association and the Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) Alumni Association will host the 3rd Annual IU Business Outlook Panel on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Walb Student Union Ballroom on the IPFW Campus. For registration information read the [full press release](#) or visit IPFW's [Calendar of Events](#)

the size of the production space from 7200 to 14,400 square feet. STAFCO currently serves many industries including the agricultural, chemical, asphalt and petroleum industry.

#### INCENTIVE SPOTLIGHT

### Growing Indiana

#### Economic Development for a Growing Economy Tax Credit (EDGE)

Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) is a refundable tax credit program that rewards companies creating jobs and contributing to the growth of Indiana's economy. EDGE credits are calculated as a percentage of payroll tax withholding and applied to state income tax, for net new Indiana jobs. EDGE credits may be awarded for up to 10 years. Each year, a limited amount of EDGE credits are also available for the retention of jobs in highly competitive situations. The company must commit to maintaining operations in Indiana for at least two years beyond the term of the company's EDGE award. [Find out more](#)

#### BLOG HIGHLIGHT

### "Germany Trade Mission Update"

*"...Friday brought great weather once again and we drove to meet with a manufacturer involved with the public transportation industry. The meeting was something you couldn't begin to script because no one would believe it. We sat down and told them about ourselves and who we represent and following our introduction, they asked if we had a bug in the phone system. Why? Because they are considering a presence in the US at this very moment and have been looking to Indiana as a possibility. Upon hearing this, we immediately adjusted our schedule..."* [Read Blog](#)

#### READ THE BLOG



#### MORE INFORMATION



With the help of the Community Research Institute (CRI) and input from our local economic development partners, you now have access to our sales sheets that contain data and information highlighting four of our six industries: [Financial & Insurance Services](#), [Food Processing](#), [Medical Devices](#) and [Transportation and Logistics](#). Dive into the facts and let Northeast Indiana work for you!

[Map Room](#) | [Regional Data Tables](#) | [Demographics](#) | [Sites & Buildings](#)

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