

Annual Report 2015

Chaired by Mayor Rahm Emanuel, World Business Chicago drives regional economic growth. WBC collaborates to create jobs, cultivate talent, and put Chicago at the forefront of the global economy.

A unique public-private partnership, WBC engages business and community leaders to advance Chicago's Plan for Economic Growth and Jobs.

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Mayor Rahm Emanuel

Since I took office in 2011, my administration has announced nearly 40,000 new jobs from 160 companies, including nearly 40 headquarter moves to Chicago. World Business Chicago's work has been integral to this growth as we strive to make Chicago the most business-friendly city in the nation, and assure that companies succeed throughout the city and its neighborhoods.

Today, Chicago is among the world's most competitive cities for business. Our economy rivals nations, and is the most diversified in the United States. Companies continue to locate and expand in the city, noting Chicago's tremendous talent pipeline, easy access to the world, and business climate.

Our city is a top five international business destination; our thriving central business district is surrounded by diverse neighborhoods that reflect the globe. We are a hub of innovation with an unmatched quality of life and competitive cost of doing business.

It is essential that we remain competitive in order to continue to bring companies—and jobs—to Chicago. In 2011, I tasked World Business Chicago with creating a plan to drive growth throughout the city and region.

The following annual report highlights how our economic growth plan is impacting the city through business development, neighborhood development, talent development, and more.

I invite you to read about the impact our plan has made so far and encourage you to get involved. Our city's future is dependent on our collaboration for inclusive economic growth.

Sincerely,

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor, City of Chicago

KalEmanuel

LETTER FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN, AND PRESIDENT & CEO

Michael Sacks and Jeff Malehorn

In 2015, World Business Chicago (WBC) worked with an impressive number of partners and businesses, continuing to make an economic impact in and around Chicago. WBC's core activities included retaining, creating and attracting businesses and jobs and connecting people to markets through initiatives.

Our success last year, as always, is largely attributable to the fundamental strengths of Chicago. However, our staff, our board and the myriad of partners we work with are critical and we thank all of you.

We are pleased that the efforts growing out of the Plan for Economic Growth and Jobs, including 1000 Jobs for Chicagoland Manufacturing, Chicago Anchors for a Strong Economy (CASE) and Metro Chicago Exports (MCE), have truly begun to impact the city and region, increasing the metro area's competitiveness and footprint.

In 2015, Chicago was named the Top Metro for corporate investment for the second year in a row by *Site Selection Magazine*, as we tracked a record number of business expansions and corporate relocations. WBC is proud of our work in this arena.

Last year we saw companies including ConAgra, Echo Logistics, Glassdoor, Kraft Heinz, Motorola Solutions, and more commit to adding jobs in the city. A number of factors including close collaboration with innovation centers, the proactive identification and recruitment companies, and strategic recruitment programs targeting key industries such as advanced manufacturing, e-commerce, biotech, medtech, and food, were critical to our success.

WBC and Chicago Sister Cities International (CSCI) continued to work to strengthen Chicago's international business and cultural relationships with countries such as China, Italy, and Mexico. We were honored to organize business and cultural exchanges with leaders and delegations from across the globe.

Under the leadership of Mayor Emanuel, and with the tremendous support of our board and partners across Chicago, WBC's reach continues to evolve. With plenty of need and plenty of good work ahead of us, WBC will continue to work hard to create opportunity and capability across the city. In particular, we look forward to working with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor Steve Koch and their teams, and newly appointed Deputy Mayor Andrea Zopp to drive inclusiveness and opportunity for neighborhoods across the city.

We invite you to read our annual report for a detailed understanding of our efforts and once again would like to thank our partners throughout the region for their collaboration.

Sincerely,

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Michael J. Sacks Vice Chairman

Jeff Malehorn
President & CFO

332

Businesses Assisted

Through one of WBC's programs, including corporate connections, referrals to service providers, grant recipients, technical assistance, relocation and expansion services,

recruitment services.

13,407

Job Connections

Jobs created, retained, placed, and committed to (at time of announcement) as a direct result of a WBC program or initiative.

+73%

Media Mentions

2014-2015 change in mentions of "World Business Chicago." Top tier is classified as media outlets with readership >250,000.

287

Partners

Relationships with external person or company, not including volunteers, who is vested in the success of a WBC program or initiative.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACT OF WBC PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

Map reflects:

76 expansion or relocation projects accounting for 12,943 jobs

224 Chicago Anchors for a Strong Economy (CASE) participants

 Generated more than \$9 million in new contracts since its inception in 2014

Metro Chicago Export (MCE) grant recipients

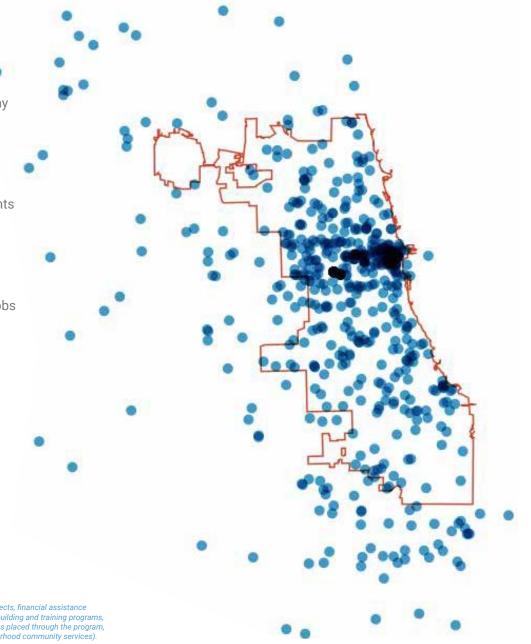
 Awarded \$225,000 to 54 businesses to advance exports

1000 Jobs for Chicagoland Manufacturing companies (79) and 5 host organizations

 Placed 361 people in manufacturing jobs and 148 in training programs

Chicago Sister Cities International (CSCI) community projects

 Hosted more than 100 events, exchanges, and initiatives in 2015



Data is for 2015 only. Map includes business development assisted projects, financial assistance provided by WBC initiatives, including MCE (grants); and WBC capacity-building and training programs, including CASE (suppliers and anchor institutions), 1000 Jobs (employees placed through the program, companies with placements and host organizations), and CSCI (neighborhood community services).

WHY COMPANIES CHOOSE CHICAGO Workforce/Talent **Access to Markets Quality of Life Central Location Diverse Economy**

Includes data (where disclosed) for companies that expanded in 2015. Multiple expansion reasons may be reported for individual projects.



ÄKTA



Two Chicago neighborhoods, the Heart of Chicago on the South Side and Goose Island on the North Side (pictured above), became home to new Amazon distribution centers in 2015. The 51,970-square-foot Goose Island distribution center marked the e-commerce giant's first facility in Illinois. Shortly after the facility opened, Amazon leased approximately 150,000 square feet of a South Side warehouse at 2801 South Western Avenue in order to reach customers faster and more efficiently.

Amazon's presence in Chicago has had a great impact on the city, creating approximately 250 new jobs, including 150 distribution jobs and 100 office jobs in a new space located at 227 West Monroe Street. The new distribution centers in densely-populated areas create jobs within Chicago's neighborhoods, while allowing Amazon to get closer to its urban customers.



Chicago-based digital design and engagement consultancy, ÄKTA, moved to 205 West Wacker Drive to accommodate its rapid growth. The new two-floor, 18,000-square-foot headquarters and Innovation Center in Chicago's Loop quadrupled the size of its previous office. Founded as a UX/UI design firm, ÄKTA has grown to a full-service mobile and digital experience consultancy. Named to the 2014 and 2015 *Inc.* 5000 list of fastest-growing private companies in the U.S., ÄKTA doubled in size in 2015. In September, after its move, ÄKTA was acquired by Salesforce to help support the technology leader's focus on digital transformation for its customers.

"ÄKTA experienced tremendous growth over the last five years and this new headquarters represents the next chapter of our story.

We are creating one of the city's most pioneering work spaces as an investment in our team and in Chicago, as an epicenter of growth and innovation in the tech industry."

John Roa - CEO, ÄKTA

AVANT



Avant, an online marketplace lending platform, signed a long-term lease for approximately 80,000 square feet at 222 North LaSalle Street. The location serves as the new home of Avant's headquarters, which has been based in Chicago since the company was founded in 2012. Avant's business model is driven by big data and machine-learning algorithms that have transformed the traditional personal loan process. To date, \$1 billion in loan originations have been issued through the Avant technology platform, providing funding for more than 200,000 customers. Avant continues to strengthen the city's reputation as a major tech hub across the country.

"Chicago has the right climate for a tech-based startup to succeed. We're seeing top talent that may have started their careers in other cities begin to flock here."

Al Goldstein - CEO, Avant



BucketFeet, a footwear company on a mission to connect people through art, expanded to a 5,000-square-foot space at 401 North Morgan Street, a newly renovated manufacturing complex called Morgan MFG in the Fulton Market district. Chicago-based BucketFeet initially worked out of startup incubator space Catapult in River North. Founded in 2011, BucketFeet has raised more than \$16 million in funding since then. The company works with 20,000 artists from 100 countries and chose to stay in the neighborhood that is attracting innovative companies such as Google, Threadless, Twitter, and Uber.

"Chicago is the perfect place for BucketFeet to do business and grow. Chicago as a city and culture has always been very collaborative and people here are always very supportive of each other. There's a ton of alignment between what our brand represents and what this city represents."

Raaja Nemani - Co-Founder and CEO, BucketFeet

CENTRO CONAGRA



Centro, a provider of enterprise-class software for digital advertising, signed a multi-year lease to occupy 70,000 square feet in Chicago's landmark Loop building, the Sullivan Center. The company plans to move its more than 250 local employees to the new offices. Centro has created more than 150 new jobs in the city since 2010. The company has been cited by media outlets as one of the best places to work in Chicago. Nationally, it ranks as the eighth best workplace among medium-sized businesses and the number one overall workplace in the advertising industry.

"Building a beautiful physical environment is critical to creating and maintaining a happy, creative, imaginative and hardworking atmosphere. I'm excited for Centro to anchor a technology revitalization in the heart of the city in the Loop."

Shawn Riegsecker - Founder and CEO, Centro



"Locating our headquarters and our largest business segment in Chicago places us in the heart of one of the world's business capitals and consumer packaged goods centers."

Sean Connolly - Chairman and CEO, ConAgra Foods

In July 2015, ConAgra Foods announced the relocation of its headquarters from Omaha, Nebraska to Chicago. Approximately 700 employees will relocate to 200,000 square feet in the city's Merchandise Mart, including the company's senior leadership team and certain functions of its consumer foods business. ConAgra joins other food industry leaders that recently located headquarter offices in Chicago including ADM, Kraft Heinz, and Sara Lee/Hillshire Brands. The growing food industry is a large part of the region's economy; the industry includes 4,500 firms, accounting for 130,000 employees and \$32 billion in sales. Chicago is one of the world's leading destinations for food companies.

ECHO GLOBAL LOGISTICS



"Chicago is an emerging technology center and provides unparalleled access to talent, expansive transportation options for our employees, and a leading cultural scene — all of which matter to our growing employee base."

Douglas R. Waggoner - Chairman and CEO, Echo Global Logistics

Echo Global Logistics announced the company will more than double its workforce in Chicago, bringing its total number of employees in the city to more than 1,600. The company is relocating more than 550 employees from a corporate acquisition of Command Transportation, who will join an existing 800 Chicago-based Echo employees at a single new office. The company also plans to add up to 300 new positions. Founded in Chicago in 2005, Echo Global Logistics is a leading provider of technology-enabled transportation and supply chain management services. The company is headquartered in Chicago with more than 30 offices around the country.

GEMS WORLD ACADEMY

"Chicago is a world-class city and GEMS offers a world-class education that prepares students to compete in today's global economy."

Sunny Varkey - Chairman, GEMS Education

In 2014, the GEMS global network of international schools opened its first grade school in the United States, GEMS World Academy (GWA) in Chicago. GWA Chicago, an international Pre-K-12 academy featuring an International Baccalaureate-based program, is located at 350 East South Water Street. In 2015, GWA Chicago broke ground for phase II, an adjacent 240,000-square-foot Upper School featuring state-of-the-art design. The Upper School will include a digital theater and media workshop, specialized laboratories dedicated to astronomy, astrophysics, automation and robotics, and a 500-seat auditorium rivaling the top learning centers around the world.



GLASSDOOR



"Chicago is an ideal market to support
Glassdoor's expansion with its central
location and incredible talent pool. We look
forward to becoming an integral part of
Chicago's business community and working
with organizations such as World Business
Chicago and Skills for Chicagoland's Future."
Robert Hohman - Co-Founder and CEO of Glassdoor, Inc.

Glassdoor, a global jobs and recruiting marketplace, announced plans to open a Chicago office, adding more than 250 jobs in the city over the next three years. Glassdoor employs more than 550 people worldwide and has raised approximately \$160 million to date. It recently surpassed 10 million reviews, ratings, salary reports and other workplace insights for more than 445,000 companies around the globe. Chicago will be Glassdoor's fifth office.



"Our move to the West Loop neighborhood, adding 52,000 square feet, signals Google's commitment to growing in the city and anchoring its presence in the Chicago community...we look forward to all [we] will continue to do in the great city of Chicago."

Margo Georgiadis - President of Americas Operations, Google Google moved into its new 300,000-square-foot office located throughout 10 floors at 1000 West Fulton Market in Chicago's West Loop. After two years of renovating the offices, the company moved 650 employees to the innovative space in a former cold storage plant. The office is a major expansion and investment in Chicago for Google, which is actively involved in philanthropic initiatives throughout the city.

GRUBHUB

INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE EXPANSIONS



"There is no doubt that Grubhub has benefited from being a part of the generous Chicago community for more than a decade. We are proud of our roots as a Chicago born and bred technology company."

Matt Maloney - Co-Founder and CEO, GrubHub

Grubhub expanded its Burnham Center headquarters (111 West Washington Street) by nearly 57,000 square feet. The nation's leading online and mobile food ordering company occupied four floors in the Burnham Center beginning in 2012 and went public in 2014. Grubhub has grown to more than 680 employees in Chicago, with the new space providing the room to continue growing. The company's platform allows diners to order directly from more than 44,000 takeout restaurants in over 1,000 U.S. cities and London.



"Chicagoans will now have a refreshing alternative when traveling to Iceland and beyond, and Icelanders and Europeans will have direct access to the vibrant and historic city of Chicago...we look forward to welcoming Chicago aboard."

Birkir Hólm Guðnason - CEO, Icelandair

Testament to Chicago's position as one of the most connected cities in the world, six air carriers announced, or began, new or expanded service from Chicago in 2015:

- · Icelandair, Iceland
- Volaris, Mexico
- · Hainan Airlines, China
- · China Eastern, China
- · Finnair, Finland
- · Copa Airways, Panama

All of these expansions add to Chicago's unparalleled access to the world, with more than 1,400 daily departures to more than 200 cities worldwide.

KRAFT HEINZ - OSCAR MAYER



"The Kraft Heinz Company saw an immediate opportunity to firmly establish our dynamic new culture, based on meritocracy, speed, efficiency and collaboration, in a new downtown Chicago open-office space to support our next chapter of growth while further strengthening our world-leading brands."

Michael Mullen, SVP, Corporate & Gov. Affairs, The Kraft Heinz Company Oscar Mayer announced that an estimated 250 employees will relocate from Madison, Wisconsin to the new Kraft Heinz headquarters in the Aon Center (200 East Randolph Street). Earlier in the year, Kraft Heinz made a long-term commitment to Chicago, signing a 12.5 year lease for five floors in the Aon Center. Oscar Mayer was founded in Chicago in 1883; the company made Madison its corporate headquarters in 1919. Oscar Mayer's decision to return to Chicago was in part due to the city's talented workforce, world-class transportation network, and unmatched business environment. The move adds to the city's strength as a leading destination for food companies.

LIVINGSTON INTERNATIONAL

"We are establishing a significant leadership presence in Chicago and expanding our suburban location to support the continued growth of our U.S. and international business. We selected Chicago because it is an international trade hub and it offers a large talent pool in areas strategic to our future."

Steven Preston - CEO, Livingston International

Livingston International, a global logistics company focused on customs brokerage and trade compliance, located its new U.S. headquarters in Chicago. Livingston added 75 employees at its office in the historic Chicago Board of Trade building (141 West Jackson Boulevard). Livingston's new U.S. headquarters will support its continued growth in the U.S. market. The company chose Chicago for its highly skilled workforce, access to transportation networks, and the diversity of the city's economy. Livingston's global headquarters is in Toronto and the company has a second U.S. office in Itasca, IL.



MEAD JOHNSON



"Locating in the center of a vibrant, worldclass city and business hub like Chicago is consistent with our vision...Our new downtown location will offer us advantages in terms of access to resources, employee and visitor amenities, and our ability to attract and retain the very best talent."

Kasper Jakobsen - President and CEO, Mead Johnson

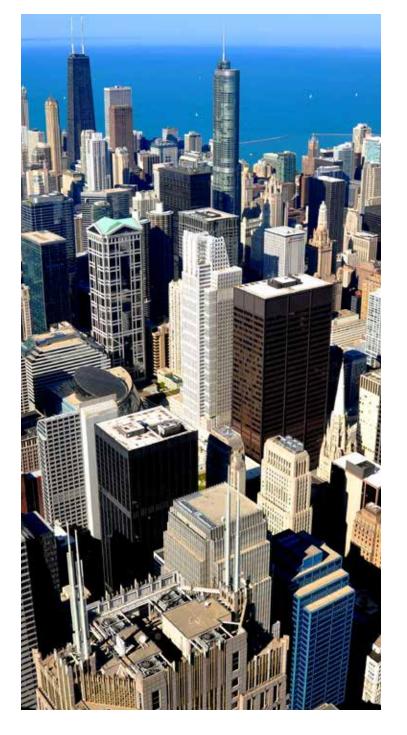
Mead Johnson, a leader in pediatric nutrition, announced that it will relocate its global headquarters in Chicago, bringing 250 jobs to the city. Mead Johnson chose to locate in Chicago for the city's proximity to key agencies and service providers, easy access to attractive, world-class amenities for employees and global visitors, the availability of public transportation, simple and direct airport access, and a strong platform for recruiting and hiring top talent. The company's new global headquarters will be located in the River Point Tower (ground breaking pictured above) now under construction on the west bank of the Chicago River.

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

"Our company began in this city eightyseven years ago, and today we're pleased to
announce that our headquarters is coming
home. This is another transformative step
in ensuring a future of continued innovation,
and will provide us with greater access to
high-tech talent."

Greg Brown - Chairman and CEO, Motorola Solutions

Motorola Solutions, a leading global provider of innovative communications solutions for public safety and commercial customers, announced that it will relocate its global headquarters from Schaumburg to Chicago, employing 1,100 in the city. Motorola Solutions will move into 150,000 square feet of space throughout six floors at 500 West Monroe Street. This move marks a return to the city for the company, which was founded in Chicago in 1928. Approximately 800 employees will be located at the new downtown headquarters and the company's customer briefing center. Motorola Solutions will also maintain its current 46,000-square-foot sales headquarters at 224 South Michigan Avenue.



PRESCIENT

"It has been an exciting year for Prescient.

Our move to Chicago has already resulted in significant growth and opportunity for our new commercial platforms. We have hired incredibly talented professionals who possess the ability to take our platforms to the next level."

David Walsh - CEO, Prescient

Prescient, an international risk management and technology company, opened its global headquarters in Chicago. The company employs 60 people at its new, state-of theart facility located at One Prudential Plaza and expects significant job growth in the coming years. Previously headquartered in McLean, VA, Prescient Edge combines leading-edge technology solutions and analysis to humanize intelligence and help clients mitigate enterprise-wide risks. The company's 23,616-square-foot facility supports operations for a comprehensive suite of due diligence, traveler safety, and risk management services for domestic and international business.



REVOLUTION BREWING

"Chicagoans are enjoying a lot of Revolution brews, and this expansion project gives us the ability to keep that beer flowing for many years. Revolution is leading a renaissance of Chicago's great brewing culture and industry that has been part of the city's history since day one."

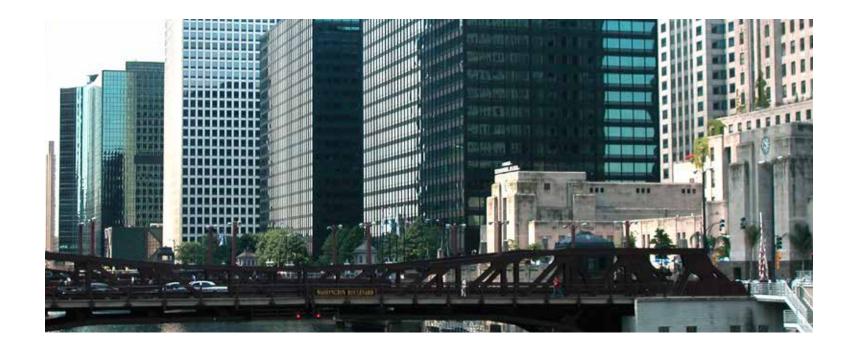
Josh Deth - Chairman of the Party, Revolution Brewing

Revolution Brewing, one of the fastest growing breweries in the country, announced the expansion of its Avondale production facility located at 3340 North Kedzie Avenue. The brewery expanded into the neighboring space within its building, boosting plant capacity to 300,000 barrels annually, installing solar panels on the roof, and increasing cold storage space. The expansion will also allow Revolution to add more variety to its lineup including Fist City, a Chicago Pale Ale.

Revolution added 15 full-time positions, bringing the company's total workforce to 180 employees. Established in 2010, Revolution Brewing operates a bustling brewpub at 2323 North Milwaukee Avenue, in addition to the 90,000-square-foot production brewery and taproom, which brews more than 60 styles of beer each year including the popular Anti-Hero IPA.



TMAXSOFT

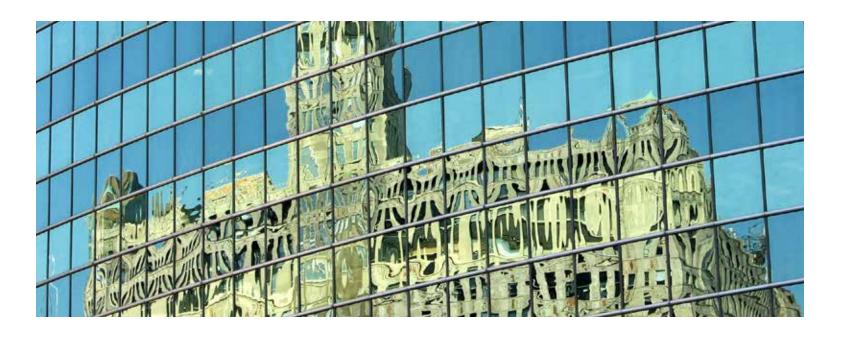


TmaxSoft, Inc., a multinational technology innovator focused on infrastructure software, announced that it will locate its new U.S. headquarters in Chicago. Having matured its technology in multiple Asian markets over the past decade, TmaxSoft will now launch its U.S. outreach with a new Chicago base of operations, relocating from New Jersey. Headquartered in Seoul, South Korea, the U.S. headquarters office (located at 101 North Wacker Drive) will create more than 30 jobs across all levels and areas of business over the next year.

"[Chicago's] central location, large
technology talent pool and growing stature
as an international hub of trade all make it
the ideal location from which to expand our
U.S. presence as part of the larger global
TmaxSoft initiative."

Joshua Yulish - President and CEO, TmaxSoft, Inc.

VELOCITYEHS



"The city has emerged as a key player in the technology community and we are proud to be a partner in that evolution. We look forward to continuing to add to Chicago's technology sector with the addition of new jobs that keep the brightest and best here in the Midwest."

Glenn Trout - President, VelocityEHS

VelocityEHS, a cloud environmental, health, safety (EHS), and sustainability software provider, leased 90,000 square feet in Chicago's Merchandise Mart for its global headquarters. The larger space accommodates the company's recent growth and provides room for its continued expansion. VelocityEHS has experienced steady growth since it first opened its doors in 1996. More than 90 percent of VelocityEHS employees rely on public transportation to get to work, and the Merchandise Mart's location was an important consideration in the move. Since 2014, the company has added 100 jobs in its Chicago office, bringing the total to more than 300 employees.

BUSINESS CLIMATE: NEW AND EXPANDING COMPANIES

1WorldSync | 1871 | 10th Magnitude | 123 Remodeling | 360Zebra | 3M | 511 Capital | A&C Plastics | A-1 Storage | AAA Car Care | Academy for Global Citizenship | Accelerated | Accertify | Accordant Media | Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education | Accuity | Ace Hotel | Acosta Sales & Marketing | Advance Auto Parts | Advocate Health Care | AFD Industries | Affordable Office Interiors | AFN | AGS Technology | AJR Filtration | AKHAN Semiconductor | ÄKTA | Akuna Capital | ALDI | Allergan | Alliant Credit Union | Alpha Baking | Alta Equiptment | Amalgamated Bank of Chicago | Amazon | AMC Theater | Amcor | American Access Casualty | American Crystal Sugar | American Eagle Bank | American Institute of Steel | American Institutes for Research | American Postal Workers Union | American Stair | American Writers Museum | America's Health Insurance Plans | AmerisourceBergen | AMIC Global | AMLI Residential | APL Logistics | Applewood Rehab | Aquion Water Treatment Products | Arc Logistics | ArcLight Cinemas | Argon | Art Van Furniture | Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. | Aryzta Bakeries | Ashley Furniture | Astronics | AT&T | Atlantic Packaging | Atlas Companies | Autonation USA | Avant | Avery Dennison | Axis Capital | Baderbräu | Balton Corp | Balyasny | Barilla | Barry Callebaut | Baxalta | BCI Acrylic Bath Systems | Bear Paddle Swim School | Berman Auto Group | Best Western International | Big R | Binny's | Black Swan Manufacturing | Blackdog Speed Shop | Blain Supply | blippar | Blue Chip Marketing Worldwide | Blue Plate | BMW | Bob's Discount Furniture | Boelter | BOX Partners | BrainLAB | Bremskerl | Brite Logistics | Brook Street | Bucher Industries AG | BucketFeet | Bulley & Andrews | Burger King | Burlington Coat Factory | Bus and Truck | Busy Brains | Buttermilk and Honey | C.H. Robinson Worldwide | C-4 Analytics | Cadence Health | Cadence Premier Logistics | Calpipe Industries | Cambria | Capital One | Carepoint | Casa Dei Bambini Montessori | Castle Metal Products | CDW | Ceannate | Centimark | Central American Group | Central DuPage Hospital | Central Steel Fabricators | Centro | Cermak Fresh Market | CEVA Group | Chamberlain Group | Charter Fitness | Chicago Coffee Roastery | Chicago Filmmakers | Chicago Literacy Alliance | Chicago Records Management | Chicago Theatre Group | ChicagoLand SportsPlex | Choice Hotels | Cinemark | Cinkciarz | Clark Hill | Clingan Steel | CloudOne | Clubcorp | CNA | Coldwell Banker | Colonial Brick | Combined Warehouse | Comcast | ComEd | ConAgra Foods | Consolidated Distribution | ContextMedia | Convenience Concepts | Con-Way | CoreCentric Solutions | Coregistics | Corptax | Costco | Crawford Laboratories | Creative Werks | Culver Franchising System | CVS Health | D2K Traffic | Dakkota | D'Artagnan | Davenport Family Funeral Home | DaVita Healthcare Partners | De Amertek | Deal Genius | Diageo | Diamond Technical Services | Dick's Sporting Goods | Digital Factory | DMI | Docusign | DOD Technologies | Dovetail Brewery | DS Containers | DS Smith Plastics | Dublin Dallas Partners | Duluth Trading | Dunkin Brands | Dynamic Manufacturing | E3 Diagnostics | EA Logistics | Echo Global Logistics | Eco Brite Linens | Ecolab | Economy Packing | Edsal Manufacturing | Edward-Elmhurst Healthcare | Elevation Point | Eli's Cheesecake | Emmi Solutions | Engler Callaway Baasten & Sraga | Enterprise Recovery Systems | Equinox Fitness | Eris Brewery and Cider House | Exegistics | Fabricators & Manufacturers Association | Facebook | Family Dollar Stores | Famous Dave's of America | Famsa USA | Fat Ricky's | FedEx | Fellowes | Ferguson Enterprises | Fermilab | Ferrara Candy | Festival Foods | FHC Marketing | Fibre Craft | First Logistics | Fletcher Jones Imports | Flextron Circuit Assembly | Floor and Dècor Outlets of America | FMGlobal | Focus Products Group | Fooda | Forest Envelope | Fort Knox Studios | Fox Rothschild | Freeborn & Peters | Freedman Seating | Fresenius Kabi USA | Fresh Thyme | Fruition Partners | Fuchs Lubricants | Fuji Food Products | Fullerton Engineering Consultants | Gallant Construction | Gap | GCG Financial | GEMS World Academy | Generation Brands | Gerflor | Getaround | GFX International | Glassdoor | Go To Logistics | Goby | Goddard Systems | Gogo | Good Foods | Goodyear Tire and Rubber | Gourmet Foods International | Grayhill | Great Central Brewing | Great Kitchens | Great Lakes Technology | Groot Industries | Groupon | GrubHub | Grupo Posadas | H&M | H.B. Fuller | H.D. Smith | Hansen Plastics | Hardware Restaurant | Harrison Street | Havas | HD Supply | Heartland Dental | Henson Consulting | Highland Solutions | Hill-Rom | Hilton | Hiwin | HMX Group | Hobby Lobby | Hoist Liftruck | Holland | Home Products International | Horizon Academy | Horizon Logistics | Horizon Pharma | Houlihan Lokey | HSBC | Hyatt Hotels | Hyundai Motor America | Illinois Bone & Joint Institute | Illinois Pallets | iManage | Independent College Bookstore Association | Industrial Specialty Chemicals | Inland Real Estate | Interceramic | InterContinental Hotels Group | International Paper | International Transload Logistics | Iris USA | J&R Dairy | Jellyvision | Jeron Electronics | Jet Brite | Jo-Ann Fabrics | Jollibee Foods | Kane is Able | Kapow Events | KapStone Paper and Packaging | Kellen | Kentucky Trailer | Kineo | Kitchen Cubes | Kloeckner Metals | Knowles | Koch Carbon (KCBX Terminals) | Koppers | Korean Bethel Presbyterian Church | KPMG | Kraft Foods | La Quinta Inn and Suites | Lakeside Bank | Lakeside Wealth Management Group | Land of Lincoln | Lansing Building Products | LaSalle Investment Management | Lavezzi Precision | Law Auto Group | LBP Manufacturing | Lear |

Lenny's Gas N Wash | LG | Lightolier | Little Sunshine's Playhouse Livingston International | Load Delivered Logistics | Lockton | Loews Hotel | Logan Square Aluminum Supply | Logistics Team | Lowes Home Centers | LSG Sky Chefs | Lucas Museum of Narrative Art | Luminii | Lurvey Landscape Supply | M&R Printing Equipment | Magenta Plastics | Main Event Entertainment | Main Stay Therapeutic Farm | MakeSpace Labs | Marco Die Supplies | Marcus Theaters | Mariano's | Market6 | Marosi Designs | Mars | Marz Brewing | Marzocchi Pumps USA | McDonald's | McNichols | Mead Johnson Nutrition | Medline | Meijer | Metropolis Coffee | Metropolitan Warehouse and Delivery | Michaels | Midway Windows and Doors | Midwest Air Technologies | Midwest Refrigerated Services | Midwest Warehouse | Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams | MKM Partners | Mobilitie | Motion PR | Motorola Solutions | Mount Sinai Hospital | Multifilm Packaging | Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) | MV Plastics | Nadzar Ink | National Technical Systems | Nationwide Insurance | Navigant Consulting | NCSA Athletic Recruiting | Nerdery | Nestle USA | New Congress | Newly Weds Foods | NNR Global Logistics | Noble Network of Charter Schools | Nobu Hotel | Noil Petroleum | Nordstrom Rack | Norfolk Southern | North American Herb and Spice | Northbridge Church | Northfield Presbyterian Church | NorthShore University HealthSystem | Northwest Polymers | Northwestern University | Novomatic Americas | Now Health Group | NTN Bearing | Nufarm Limited | Nutriad | NXT Capital | Ocenco | Old World Industries | OlÈ Mexican Foods | Omobono (USA) | One North Interactive | Option Care | Orange Crush | O'Reilly Auto Parts | Otak | Otto Engineering | Oxford Capital Group | Ozburn-Hessey Logistics | Ozinga | Pacific Architects and Engineers | Paper Source | Paris Presents | Parker Plastics | ParkWhiz | Peerless of America | Pella | PepsiCo | PerkinElmer | Persio | Pet Food Experts | Phoenix International Publishing | Plastic Reclamation Partners | PODS Enterprises | Polsinelli Shughart | Portilloís Food Service | Power Equipment Direct | Power Solutions International | PowerReviews | PPG | Pratt Industries | Precision Color Graphics | Prescient Edge | Presence Health Network | Prime Woodcraft | Primrose Schools | Prince Industries | Principle Construction | PrintPak | Professional Freezing Services | Professional Meters | PTS Logistics | ProTrans | PSAV | Pullman Community Center | Qualanex | Quality Technology Centers | Quantum Group | Midas Medici Group | Rainbow Lighting | Raise Marketplace | Rana Foods | RBI Bearing | Real Trucking | Reflektion | Regis Technologies | Regus | Renewable Energy Systems Americas | Renishaw | Restoration Hardware | Revolution Brewing | Rightsize Facility Performance | Rise Interactive | Riverside Medical Center | RJW Transport | RM Lucas | Robert C. Weisheit | Robertshaw | RocHaus | Roentshaw | RocHaus | Roentshaw | RocHaus | Robertshaw | Robertshaw | Robertshaw | RocHaus | Robertshaw | RocHaus | Robertshaw | Roberts gen USA | Ropak | RRM Transportation | RTC Industries | Rush University Medical Center | Rush-Copley | Saddle Creek Logistics | Sage Products | Saks Fifth Avenue | Salesforce.com | Salt Creek Club | Salvation Army | Savage Bros. | Savers | S.C. 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Grainger | Walgreens | Wal-Mart Stores | Warehouse Specialists | Water Street Healthcare Partners | Wauconda Care | WebAnywhere | Weber Stephen Products | Weiss-R^hlig | West Liberty Foods | West Marine | West Monroe Partners | WeWork | Wheaton Montessori | Whirlpool | Whitehall Hotel | Whole Foods Market | Winpak Portion Packaging | Wisdom Adhesives Worldwide | Wise Plastic Technologies | Wong Enterprises | WoodSpring Suites | Woodward Controls | Woolf Distributing | Worldwide Material Handling | WSI Integrated Logistics | Wyspa Dzieci | WyzAnt | XPO Logistics | Xsport Fitness | Yelp | Youth Organizations Umbrella | Zahoransky AG | Zebra Technologies | ZirMed | ZS Associates

BUSINESS CLIMATE: NEW AND EXPANDING COMPANIES*

Capturing WBC research

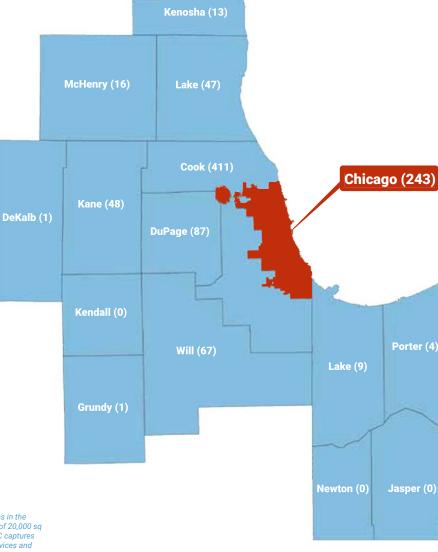
704
Projects

47,739
Jobs

133

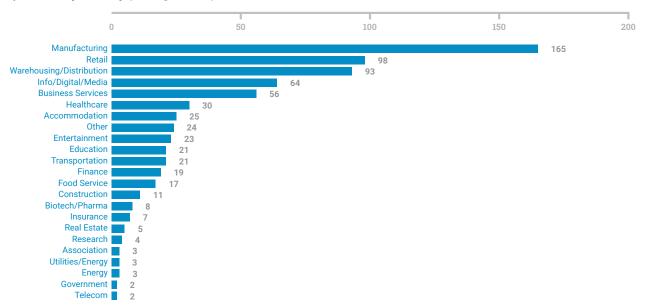
Headquarter Facilities

\$6.2b
Generated

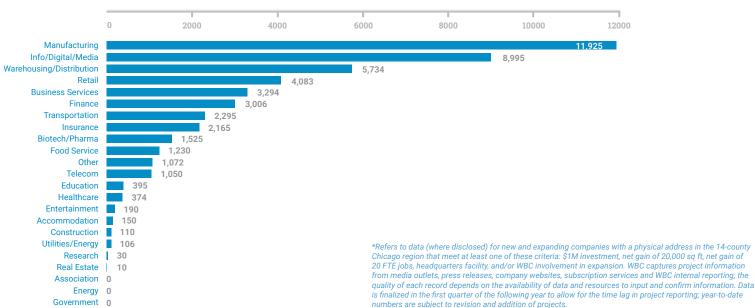


BUSINESS CLIMATE: INDUSTRY IMPACT*

Expansions by Industry (Chicago Metro)



Jobs Added & Retained by Industry (Chicago Metro)



* Refers to data (where disclosed) for new and expanding companies with a physical address in the 14-county Chicago region that meet at least one of these criteria: \$1M investment, net gain of 20,000 sq ft, net gain of 20 FTE jobs, headquarters facility, and/or WBC involvement in expansion. WBC captures project information from media outlets, press releases, company websites, subscription services and WBC internal reporting; the quality of each record depends on the availability of data and resources to input and confirm information. Data is finalized in the first quarter of the following year to allow for the time lag in project reporting; year-to-date numbers are subject to revision and addition of projects.



GLOBAL REACH



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

IBM ranked Chicago first in North America and sixth globally in significant foreign direct investment (FDI) projects in 2015 (2014 data). The number of FDI projects were up in both the city of Chicago and the region. More than 30 countries were represented, highlighting the breadth of international direct investment activity. WBC contributed to this growth through international outreach efforts.

Chicago Sister Cities International (CSCI) hosted 34 delegations in 2015 on behalf of the City of Chicago, including mayoral delegations from Galway, Ireland; Lucerne, Switzerland; and Prague, Czech Republic. CSCI also supported important outbound delegations, including Mayor Emanuel's mission to Paris, France and the more than 20 member business delegations to Shanghai and Shenyang, China.

WBC continued to strengthen Chicago's business relationship with China, coordinating the successful visit to four Chinese cities with Deputy Mayor Steve Koch (including celebrating the 30th anniversary of sister city partnerships with Shanghai and Shenyang), and signing a first-of-its-kind business accelerator program with the Chinese Ministry of Commerce. Additionally, WBC organized Mayor Emanuel's visit for the 26th US-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade. While there, the Chicago delegation met with more than 100 companies.

In addition, CSCI took a delegation of more than 40 Chicagoans to Milan, Italy in September for Chicago Week in Milan. The week included Chicago-themed business, cultural, culinary, and education programming during the 2015 World Expo.

CSCI received Sister Cities International's 2015 Innovation Award for Economic Development for its work with World Business Chicago on the Global Cities Economic Partnership between Chicago and its sister city of Mexico City.

CSCI provides leadership to develop, manage, and coordinate comprehensive programs and projects with Chicago's 28 sister cities, focusing on business, culture, education, immigration, and tourism. CSCI expands Chicago's global reach benefiting the city of Chicago, its residents, and businesses.



CHICAGO'S 28 SISTER CITIES

ACCRA	BIRMINGHAM UNITED KINGDOM	DELHI	HAMBURG	MEXICO CITY	PARIS	SHENYANG
GHANA		INDIA	GERMANY	MEXICO	FRANCE	CHINA
AMMAN	BOGOTA	DURBAN	KYIV	MILAN	PETACH TIKVA	TORONTO
JORDAN	COLOMBIA	SOUTH AFRICA	UKRAINE	ITALY	ISRAEL	CANADA
ATHENS GREECE	BUSAN REPUBLIC OF KOREA	GALWAY IRELAND	LAHORE PAKISTAN	MOSCOW RUSSIA	PRAGUE CZECH REPUBLIC	VILNIUS LITHUANIA
BELGRADE	CASABLANCA	GOTHENBURG	LUCERNE	OSAKA	SHANGHAI	WARSAW
SERBIA	MOROCCO	SWEDEN	SWITZERLAND	JAPAN	CHINA	POLAND

CHICAGO CONSULAR CORPS GALA

CSCI and WBC hosted the annual Chicago Consular Corps Gala: A Tribute to Our Global Partners on December 15, 2015. The gala takes place in the fourth quarter each year.

With a guest list that included members of the 85 foreign and honorary consulates in Chicago, the Gala raised over \$900,000 to support the work of CSCI and WBC and to fund Chicago Consular Corps scholarships to the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The Chicago Consular Corps honored Jim McNerney, Chairman of The Boeing Company, for making an extraordinary contribution to Chicago's international reputation, stature, and global reach with the prestigious Global Citizen Award.

In addition, three other awards were presented at the Gala: the Corporate Ambassador Award to Walgreens Boots Alliance; the ChicagoNEXT Award to kCura; and the Chicago Sister Cities International Volunteer of the Year Award to Dr. Tariq Butt, Co-Chair of the Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International.

HONOREES

Global Citizen Award

Jim McNerney

Chairman of The Boeing Company

Corporate Ambassador Award

Walgreens Boots Alliance

ChicagoNEXT Award

kCura

Chicago Sister Cities International Volunteer of the Year

Dr. Tariq Butt

Co-Chair of the Lahore Committee of CSCI







With the guidance of WBC's council on technology,
ChicagoNEXT, 2015 proved to be a strong year for Chicago's
tech community. Integral to WBC's mission, ChicagoNEXT
focuses on driving growth in Chicago's tech economy
by increasing access to capital for early-stage startups;
expanding the talent pipeline of recent graduates in STEM
fields; and connecting resources and opportunities in
innovative industries including bioscience, cleantech,
fintech, and web/mobile.

WBC impacted the community with efforts including ThinkChicago, ChicagoMade, Cleantech Innovation Bridge, and MATTER in 2015. Mark Tebbe was named Chairman of ChicagoNEXT; J.B. Pritzker, Managing Partner of Pritzker

Group and the organization's previous Chairman, now serves as Chairman Emeritus. Tebbe brings his deep experience in business and technology to WBC.

With support from the community, Chicago's tech companies continued to thrive in 2015. According to Built In Chicago, 143 companies raised more than \$1.7 billion in venture capital, making it the best year ever for funding. Additionally, there were 39 exits accounting for \$8.2 billion.

\$1.9b

R&D at Chicago Colleges and Universities

300

Corporate R&D Facilities

143

Companies Funded

\$1.7b

In Venture Capital Funding

97

Incubators, accelerators, co-working spaces, and innovation hubs

39

Exits

\$8.2b

Raised From Exits

Source: Built In Chicago 2015 Startup Report, Manufacturers' News, Inc., National Science Foundation, and World Business Chicago

THINKCHICAGO

ThinkChicago celebrated its fifth year by hosting nearly 300 top technology, design and entrepreneurship students for programs surrounding Lollapalooza and Chicago Ideas Week. The programs showcased Chicago's innovation hubs, fast-growing technology firms, and many of its leading entrepreneurs and technologists. Students learned about Chicago's thriving innovation ecosystem via tech talks, site visits, company showcase events, and networking opportunities.

Since ThinkChicago's launch, nearly 1,000 students have participated with applications from nearly 100 universities. The program highlights Chicago's position as a thriving city for graduating students, and encourages young professionals from around the country to build their careers in the city.

PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED:

Mayor Rahm Emanuel

Charles Adler
 Kickstarter Co-Founder

Harper Reed 2012 Obama campaign CTO and entrepreneur

Jimmy Chamberlain
Entrepreneur and Smashing
Pumpkins drummer

- 1871

Chicago Public Library

Cleverbridge

kCuraLinkedIn

- MATTER

Motorola Mobility

"ThinkChicago...caused me to re-evaluate my career path and made me realize that I ultimately want to be a part of this exciting movement of innovation. I was taken aback by the humility and genuine kindness that many of the speakers and tech leaders exhibited towards us. There was no sense of entitlement, but rather there was every sense of desire to help young entrepreneurs get on their feet."

Kelly Samara - Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



STUDENTS FROM MORE THAN 40 TOP UNIVERSITIES INCLUDING:

Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University

Illinois Institute of Technology London School of Economics Mass. Institute of Technology Northwestern University Princeton University
Purdue University
Stanford University
University of Chicago

University of Illinois
University of Michigan
University of Texas at Austin
University of Wisconsin

CHICAGOMADE

WBC leveraged Chicago's top innovators, artists, and designers as brand ambassadors to raise awareness of their city through ChicagoMade. The unifying effort highlights Chicago's entrepreneurs, creative makers, and innovative products in order to elevate the city as a premiere destination for business, talent, tourism, and entertainment.

ChicagoMade once again had a presence at South by Southwest (SXSW) in Austin, Texas in 2015 with an exhibit booth at the trade show and an official SXSW Chicago music showcase. The effort included meet-and-greet opportunities with leaders from Chicago's technology, music and film industries, along with performances by a variety of Chicago's rising and established musical acts.

TO DATE, CHICAGOMADE HAS

- Generated more than 176 news stories
- Hosted events with executives from Amazon,
 Google, Apple, Warner Bros., and more
- Organized more than 30 meet-and-greets with Chicago leaders including Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Jimmy Chamberlin, Harper Reed, Martin Atkins, J.B. Pritzker, Brad Keywell, Howard Tullman
- Showcased artists including Chance the Rapper and Vic Mensa
- Connected with companies that have committed to growing their Chicago presence including Music Dealers, Dom & Tom, Fort Knox Studios, and Inventables



CLEANTECH INNOVATION BRIDGE

The Cleantech Innovation Bridge (CIB) matches clean energy researchers and early-stage ventures with corporations seeking innovative energy technologies and solutions. The program is accelerating the pace of clean energy innovation by facilitating business opportunities between corporations and startups. The Cleantech Innovation Bridge is a partnership between Clean Energy Trust, Freshwater Advisors, and ChicagoNEXT with consulting support from Accenture, Deloitte, and Ernst & Young.

The first program group was led by Exelon, Invenergy, and Schneider Electric. The program culminated in a demo day showcase, where each corporation saw pitches from 16 startups; 13 have received some form of engagement to date. The program will run in the year ahead with new partners including, ADM (Archer Daniels Midland), AEP (American Electric Power), and AGL Resources, parent company of Nicor Gas.

MATTER

MATTER is a community of startups and industry leaders working together in a shared space to fuel the future of healthcare innovation. Incubated as an initiative of ChicagoNEXT's bioscience committee and launched in 2015, the innovation space located in Chicago's Merchandise Mart to date has:

- Secured \$9 million in public and private funding
- Grown from 70 to 117 members and 70 industry partners, including some of world's leading hospital systems, pharma companies, universities, and financial institutions
- Generated dozens of substantive relationships between industry partners and member startups



MATTER'S PARTNERS INCLUDE

Abbott

AbbVie

Allscripts

American Medical Association

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Astellas

City of Chicago

Ernst & Young

Healthios

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Horizon Pharma

JPMorgan Chase

Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center

Marathon Pharmaceuticals

NorthShore Health System
Northwestern University

OSF Healthcare

Sinai Health System

Takeda Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.

University of Chicago University of Illinois

BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois

Healthcare REIT



1000 JOBS FOR CHICAGOLAND MANUFACTURING



1000 Jobs for Chicagoland Manufacturing completed its first full year in 2015. Funded by more than \$1 million in public and private contributions, the initiative aims to drive immediate impact in the regional manufacturing sector by placing 1,000 people on a path to a career in manufacturing.

In 2015, the initiative:

- Provided grants to five community-based workforce organizations to match residents with open jobs and training programs
- Placed 361 people in manufacturing jobs and 148 in training programs, including more than 140 job placements for ex-offenders

- Matched 77 different manufacturers across the Chicago region with qualified candidates who were able to fill open jobs
- Launched an outreach campaign to raise the profile of advanced manufacturing careers and increase qualified candidates
- Coordinated with workforce development organizations, employers, and training providers to learn how the workforce development system can create a sustainable pipeline of people prepared for careers in advanced manufacturing

METRO CHICAGO EXPORTS

Metro Chicago Exports (MCE) is an unprecedented regional collaboration between the City of Chicago and the seven counties in Northeastern Illinois to increase exports from small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) and support regional job growth.

In 2015, MCE:

- Awarded \$225,000 to 54 SMEs to advance their international trade, specifically exports
- Received funding commitment from key program sponsors to launch initiative
- Appointed managing director
- Developed working relationships with key export service providers at the federal, state, and local levels
- Secured regional support from county chairs and economic development organizations across the region
- Received commitment to continue initiative through second year
- Generated \$10 million in revenue

Metro Chicago Exports builds on the Global Cities Initiative, a joint project of the Brookings Institution and JPMorgan Chase.



CHICAGO ANCHORS FOR A STRONG ECONOMY - CASE

Chicago Anchors for a Strong Economy (CASE), with seed funding from Polk Bros. Foundation, has generated more than \$9 million in new contracts since its inception in 2014. The program leverages anchors (large institutions with significant buying power) and the small business ecosystem to create middle income jobs and neighborhood vibrancy throughout Cook County. Through CASE, Chicago-area anchors become buyers of products and services offered by local small businesses.

More than 200 businesses have participated in CASE to date, creating more than 70 jobs and \$9.4 million in revenue.

"On a scale of 1-10, our experience has been a 10, maybe an 11.

Everything that was presented about the program has been what we expected and more. CASE is a great initiative for small, local businesses in the Chicagoland area."

Amy Van Howe - Vice President, West Fuels, Inc.

In 2015, the program recognized its greatest contributors with three inaugural awards:

Anchor of the Year

Advocate Healthcare BMO Harris Northwestern University

Business of the Year

Digby's Security and Detective Services Inc. CSI 3000

Partner of the Year

Polk Bros. Foundation

2015 ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS

_	Advocate	Health	Care

BMO Harris Bank

Chicago Housing Authority

Chicago Transit Authority

City of Chicago

Commonwealth Edison

Cook County

Illinois Institute of Technology

Museums in the Park

Northwestern University

Northwestern Memorial

Healthcare

Rush University

Medical Center

University of Chicago

University of Chicago

Medical Center

University of Illinois

at Chicago

at omougo

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

World Business Chicago's Fellowship program offers exclusive, professional development opportunities for mid-level executives to help WBC drive Chicago's growth. WBC's talented fellows work full-time for four to six months to help guide the development and implementation of initiatives vital to Chicago's future. Fellows gain leadership opportunities and build lasting relationships within the public and private sectors.

In 2015, WBC hosted 18 Fellows from 16 organizations including: Avison Young, Bank of America, CohnReznick LLP, DeVry Education Group, Exelon/ComEd, EY, Ford Motor Company, Gensler, Grant Thornton, Hyatt, Joliet Junior College, KPMG, Merrill Lynch, PrivateBank, UL, and Zurich North America.

"My Fellowship made me a confident leader and helped me recognize my abilities to adapt to changing situations and influence diverse groups of stakeholders to align their efforts."

Rachana Sharma - Senior Associate Advisory, KPMG, Former WBC Fellow

Rachana Sharma participated in WBC's Fellowship program from Oct 2014 – Mar 2015. During her Fellowship, she led initiatives to strengthen Chicago's position as an advanced manufacturing hub.



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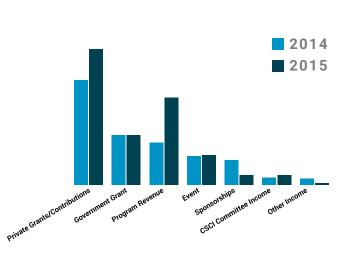
FINANCIALS

Audited financial statements available at WorldBusinessChicago.com/Annual-Report

REVENUE 2014: \$8.1M

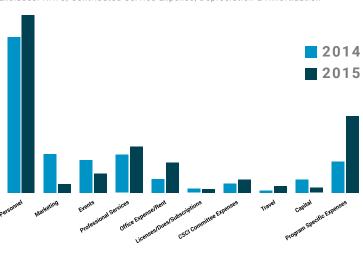
2015: \$9.9M

Excludes: Contributed Service Income



EXPENSES 2014: \$7.6M 2015: \$8.7M

Excludes: NATO, Contributed Service Expense, Depreciation & Amortization



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Category	Value	Provider(s)
Advertising and Marketing	\$152,000	Hawthorne Strategy Group, Modern Marketing Partners, B. Shah
Professional Services	\$1,800,000	Avison Young, Baker & McKenzie, Chapman and Cutler, CohnReznick LLC, DeVry Education Group, Duane Morris, Ernst & Young, Exelon, Ford Motor Company, Gensler, Goldberg Kohn, Grant Thornton, Hyatt, Joliet Junior College, Jones Day, Katten Muchin Rosenman, Kirkland & Ellis, KPMG, L.E.K. Consulting, Locke Lord, Mayer Brown, McKinsey, Seyfarth Shaw, Sidley Austin, The PrivateBank, US Trust, Bank of America, Winston & Strawn, and Zurich Insurance North America
Travel and Meeting Space	\$120,000	United Airlines, Inc., Baker & McKenzie, Kirkland & Ellis, Locke Lord, Skydeck Chicago

Revenue and Expenses differ from the WBC Audited Financial Statements due to the classification of direct special event expenditures which are shown as an offset to revenue in the Audited Financial Statements. Direct special event expenditures are classified in the Annual Report as expenses.

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