



NEWS FROM THE HUMAN CAPITAL

National Study of Corporate Executives Casts Favorable Light on Austin

The Austin Chamber of Commerce recently released the results of a recent national survey of corporate leaders of companies with revenues in excess of at least fifty million dollars. The goal of the survey was to find out how executives look at Austin relative to other cities as a site for possible expansion or relocation and out of 15 possible metropolitan areas across the country, Austin was the city most often chosen as a desired target for expansion or relocation.



The survey, conducted in the fall of 2008 by The Benchmark Company, shows a drastic increase in recognition of Austin-based companies over 2006, indicating that a greater number of executives not only distinguish Austin as a strong business climate, but also understand that Austin is an attractive market for headquarter relocation as well. Executives cited an educated workforce, top-notch universities, a thriving tech community and abundant quality of life as reasons to consider Austin, the Human Capital, when repositioning a company.

Austin Chamber Targets Industry Sectors Around the World

Austin Chamber staff have attended several trade shows recently, promoting Central Texas to a wide variety of technology and business sectors.

The Austin Chamber and regional partners joined the Governor's Office of Economic Development at the recent BIO 2009 conference and trade show in Atlanta to further promote Austin's efforts in the biotechnology and life sciences industries. The Austin region has grown as a biotech hub given the strong university presence, life sciences research, medical training, funding resources and commercialization opportunities.



The Austin Chamber promoted its clean energy and automotive technologies in Detroit at the SAE 2009 World Congress, an automotive technology event with specialized focus on Green Mobility. Austin is increasing its green efforts, currently working to create 25,000 green jobs.



Chamber staff also worked to further develop international partnerships at the LaBaule World Investment Conference, which aims to boost communication and investments between Europe and North America. The conference, which was held in France, also had several sub-platforms, including the Transatlantic Green Platform, Brainpower Forum and Global Tech Showcase.



Austin Welcomes New Mayor, Lee Leffingwell



Austin welcomed Lee Leffingwell as the city's new Mayor on June 22, 2009. Leffingwell is a native of Austin and a retired airline pilot. He graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in Mechanical Engineering then became an officer and pilot in the United States Navy. He also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Austin Bergstrom International Airport Development Corporation and is a member of the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority Policy Board, working to improve travel conditions for Austin.

Featured Real Estate

Quarry Oaks

Quarry Oaks offers a great corporate campus setting, located on a spring-fed lake, nestled in a grove of ancient oak trees.

This class A office site currently offers 63,000 square feet of space with the potential to build-to-suit two additional buildings totaling 150,000 square feet. High-end shopping and dining continue to locate in the area. UT research campus is within three miles.

For more information about developments highlighted by the Austin Chamber visit:
www.austinchamber.com/DoBusiness/RealEstate

"They have the triple-whammy of being a university town, a state capital and a technology center. It makes for a very robust economy and a great place for people to work."

-Al Lee, PayScale.com (Forbes.com, 5/09)



Forbes Names Austin Best City for Recession Recovery

Forbes named the Austin metro as the Best City for Recession Recovery in its list of the 10 U.S. cities poised for a rebound from the economic slump. Many Texas cities are poised for swift recovery, according to *Forbes*. Texas' economy is diverse, with heavy growth coming from education and health care in recent years, and did not see the massive real estate bubble that formed in states like California, Nevada and Florida.

The *Forbes* analysis also shows the importance of a city's economic make-up. Cities with robust technology sectors are poised for stronger recoveries than manufacturing or finance centers. Austin's diverse economy, home to Dell, the University of Texas and the Texas state government, has kept the economy strong.



Recent Relocations: 8 relocations, 232 new jobs added this year

Company Name	Jobs Added	City Relocated from
Absolute Software	60 jobs	Vancouver, British Columbia
Batter Blaster	17 jobs	San Francisco, CA
CyrusOne	20 jobs	Houston, TX
Directed Manufacturing	14 jobs	San Diego, CA
Interspire	24 jobs	Sydney, Australia
Red Oxygen	12 jobs	Brisbane, Australia
SmartSpark Energy Systems	20 jobs	Champaign, IL

Recent Expansions: 15 expansions, 1,278 new jobs added this year

Company Name	Jobs Added	City Expanded in
DMX	85 jobs	Austin, TX
Gerson Lehrman Group	50 jobs	Austin, TX
National Instruments	100 jobs	Austin, TX
OneWest Bank	700 jobs	Austin, TX
Touch International	100 jobs	Austin, TX
Vigil Games (THQ)	135 jobs	Austin, TX
WebWars	30 jobs	Austin, TX

Recent Layoffs: 19 layoffs, 938 existing jobs lost this year

Company Name	Jobs Lost	City Lost in
Applied Materials	61 jobs	Austin, TX
Freescale	319 jobs	Austin, TX
IndyMac	50 jobs	Austin, TX
Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson	57 jobs	Austin, TX
Newmark Homes	63 jobs	Austin, TX
Spansion	163 jobs	Austin, TX
Sun Microsystems	45 jobs	Austin, TX

Austin in the News

Austin Best City for Fresh Start. According to Relocation.com, an online moving service, Austin is number one on its list of the best cities to start over and seek out new economic opportunities. They used city popularity, economic-growth prospects, home affordability and the strength of a community to create its list. (Relocation.com, 6/09)

Austin 3rd Strongest Metro Economy in the Country. The Brookings Institution's inaugural release of the MetroMonitor report identified Austin as the 3rd strongest performing metro area. Austin is joined by other Texas cities such as San Antonio and Dallas on the list. (Brookings Institution, 6/09)

Texas No. 1 State for Business. Directorship, a publication that caters to corporate boardroom leaders, gave Texas the number one spot due to its ability to attract Fortune 500 companies, its solid economy, affordable cost of living and its pro-business tax climate. (Directorship, 6/09)

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Austin
 The Human Capital

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