



# On the Economic Scene



A weekly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Department of Economic Development

August 3, 2015

ONLINE VERSION AT [FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG](http://FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG)

**VMA TO PRESENT WORKSHOP ON EXPORTING** -- The VMA is hosting a workshop on how to export effectively. Germfree, Ormond Beach, will share its success in exporting to six continents. The workshop is August 11 at 7:45 a.m. at the LPGA clubhouse in Daytona Beach. For information and to register, go online to: [vmaonline.com/events](http://vmaonline.com/events).

**GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR DUBAI BOAT SHOW** -- The Dubai International Boat Show is March 1 - 5 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The Middle East is one of the most affluent regions in the world. Enterprise Florida is teaming with the U.S. pavilion organizer and the U.S. Commercial Service to offer companies the opportunity to exhibit in the Florida section of the pavilion. Trade grants are available. For information, call Virgil Kimball at 396-248-8048.

**CAREER ACADEMY OFFERS TRAINING FOR ASPIRING CREATIVES** -- The Academy of Web and Digital Media at Seabreeze High School offers students web design and/or digital design courses integrated with academic courses in preparation for careers in visual arts, web development, and interactive design. For information go online to: [career-connection.org](http://career-connection.org) or email Gwen Coy, academy director, at [glhousto@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:glhousto@volusia.k12.fl.us).

**SURVEY: AMERICAN WORKERS LIKE THEIR JOBS** -- According to a Society for Human Resource Management 2014 employee job satisfaction and engagement survey, 86 percent of U.S. employees report overall satisfaction with their job. The top two aspects of job satisfaction are respectful treatment (72 percent) and trust between employees and senior management (64 percent). Following in importance are benefits, compensation/pay, and job security. For the report go to: [tinyurl.com/p86rhmo](http://tinyurl.com/p86rhmo).

**CERTIFIED TRADE MISSIONS OFFER CREDIBILITY** -- U.S. Certified Trade Missions (CTMs) are backed by the U.S. government. CTMs are planned by state and local governments, industry and trade associations, and chambers of commerce and are approved by the U.S. Commercial Service, the trade promotion arm of the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. Having the endorsement of the U.S. government can help to open doors overseas. For information go to: [export.gov/%5C/ctm/index.asp](http://export.gov/%5C/ctm/index.asp).

**FLORIDA AMONG TOP STATES WITH FASTEST JOB GROWTH** -- Florida was ranked one of the top 10 states expected to see the fastest employment gains in 2015, according to Kiplinger magazine. The state's job market this year is forecasted to grow 3.2 percent and 3.4 percent next year. Kiplinger projects Florida to add 253,600 jobs this year and 274,600 next year. Construction, tourism, health care, transportation and technology will buoy the economy.

**DOL CLARIFIES INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR DEFINITION** -- The Department of Labor (DOL) has released guidance on how to assess if a worker is properly classified as an independent contractor. The memo focuses on new interpretations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Go online to: [dol.gov/whd/workers/Misclassification/AI-2015\\_1.pdf](http://dol.gov/whd/workers/Misclassification/AI-2015_1.pdf).

**NO SURPRISE: MOBILE PHONES AN IMPORTANT SMALL BUSINESS TOOL** -- Approximately 80 percent of small business owners use their mobile phone for business at least once a day, nearly a 10 percent increase since 2012, according to Manta's SMB Wellness Index. The study revealed a quarter of small businesses use a mobile device for business at least every hour. In addition, 78 percent of small business owners use their mobile device while in front of their computer (a 10 percent increase since 2012) for things such as checking personal texts or email (48 percent) and speedier email access (25 percent).

**BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT REQUIRED FOR ALL VOLUSIA BUSINESSES** -- All businesses with a physical location in Volusia County are required to have a current Volusia County business tax receipt unless exempt per section 114-1(b) tax schedule of the Volusia County Code of Ordinances. To find out if a business is registered with Volusia County's Revenue Division or to apply for a business tax receipt go online to: [volusia.county-taxes.com](http://volusia.county-taxes.com).

**NEWS ITEMS WANTED** -- Please send your business news items to Dave Byron, Volusia County Community Services Department Director, at [dbyron@volusia.org](mailto:dbyron@volusia.org). If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.