



On the Economic \$cene



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

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ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

FLORIDA MANUFACTURERS SUMMIT -- The annual Manufacturers Summit and Marketplace takes place Nov. 15, 16 and 17 in Gainesville. The summit gives manufacturers, economic developers, educators, service providers and others an opportunity to learn, share and network. For more information, go to www.mafmfg.com/2016-annual-summit-marketplace.

MID-YEAR ECONOMIC REPORT -- The National Small Business Association's 2016 Mid-Year Economic Report shows a national small-business community with ongoing concerns about the overall economy. Most small-business owners are projecting a flat economy in the coming 12 months, but more today are anticipating economic expansion than did just six months ago. Economic uncertainty continues to be the No. 1 challenge to the future growth of America's small businesses. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/hagkwlh>.

FUTURE OF AVIATION WEBINAR -- Here's your chance to take a free and fascinating look at emerging trends and technologies that will impact aviation and aerospace for the next generation. Technology has not only affected how we operate and maintain aircraft, but also how we train and educate operators and maintainers. Virtual training environments, gamification and systems approaches are emerging trends in aeronautical education. This free webinar will begin at 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22. It's offered by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in cooperation with the Flight School Association of North America. For more information and registration, visit <http://tinyurl.com/hykkqje>.

B2B INDUSTRY SECTOR GROWTH REPORTED -- According to international accounting and consulting network RSM, the U.S. business products and services (B2B) industry sector continued to grow in Q2 2016 at pace with the global economy though only in a minimal-growth trajectory. Mergers and acquisitions volume declined but IPO closings saw resurgence from a weak first quarter and raised \$1.8 billion, a two-year quarterly record. For more information, go to <http://tinyurl.com/j7gzip3>.

FRAUD -- You've probably heard about investment fraudsters targeting the millions of Americans nearing (or already in) retirement. Scammers are using a variety of tricks and more sophisticated strategies every day. Their objectives are always the same – to steal your money and personal information. Check out <http://tinyurl.com/h7oxnx4> to learn how to better protect yourself.

FLORIDA SIMULATION SUMMIT 2016 -- Simulation is a key business tool in a multitude of industries beyond defense applications including entertainment, education, health care, energy, transportation, manufacturing and cyber. The Florida Simulation Summit 2016 will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at the Orange County Convention Center. For more information and registration go to www.simulationinformation.com/events/florida-simulation-summit-2016.

EMERGENCY LOANS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES -- Gov. Rick Scott has activated Florida's Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program to support local small businesses affected by Hurricane Hermine. The loan program helps bridge the gap for damaged small businesses between the time impact occurs until other resources, including insurance claims and federal assistance, become available. For more information or to submit an application, visit www.floridadisasterloan.org.

COLLEGE TUITION AND CREDIT CARDS -- Colleges charge an average fee of 2.62% on credit card payments for tuition, according to a new CreditCards.com report. The web company surveyed 100 private colleges, 100 public universities and 100 community colleges from the continental United States. Of those, 145 accept credit card tuition payments and charge a "convenience fee." While only 8% of the community colleges charge the fee, the survey found 93% of public and 77% of private colleges charge for credit card tuition payments.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information Director, at jmagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.