

HighTech

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If you never have a vision, you’ll never have a vision come true.” These words, spoken by Dr. Stephen W.S. McKeever, vice president for research and technology transfer at Oklahoma State University, underscore a movement in the state to create a regional research enterprise that draws from the collective resources found in

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Tulsa, Stillwater, Oklahoma City, and surrounding areas. Crafted by the architects of the governor’s EDGE Program and named the “Research Capital of the Plains,” the initiative emulates other high-tech ventures around the country. With the passage of Vision 2025, Tulsa’s commitment to a technology-based economy takes center stage.

Tulsa’s McDonnell Douglas’s facilities manufactured components for the F-15, F-18, and AV-8. Tulsa’s Rockwell’s facilities produced components for the B-1B and the payload bay doors for the space shuttle.



As the region readies for an economic explosion of national interest, the distinction lessens between private industry and universities. Technology-based economies gain momentum from a blending of science and technology, education and business, and private and public philosophies. Going it alone makes no sense today. The future requires unconventional relationships and nontraditional research approaches. Governments look to private industry for solutions, and universities perform research valued by private industry. The Oklahoma

Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology estimates that every dollar of public funding committed by the state to research generates a 15-to-20-dollar return on investment.

Envision a place where entrepreneurs flourish... innovation replaces automation...technology investment drives the economy. Such a place exists right here, right now. The technology pipeline that fuels the economy starts in Tulsa. OneNet, a division of the state regents and Oklahoma’s official telecommunications

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COX COMMUNICATIONS

One company—one connection—one bill—one call. These are only a few of the reasons why Cox Communications is recognized as a leading broadband-communications provider and an industry leader in quality customer care.

Cox Communications has grown into much more than just a cable company. Today, Cox offers a full bundle of products, including cable, high-speed Internet, and digital telephone services. Cox is the fourth largest cable provider in the nation, serving nearly 200,000 business and residential customers in Tulsa and more than 6.9 million customers across the country. With one of the highest-capacity and most reliable broadband-delivery networks, Cox provides advanced video, voice, and data solutions from a single source—your cable outlet. For Cox, it's not about being the biggest...it's about being the best.

At Cox, the 24/7 customer-care philosophy enhances its service commitment by bringing people and technology



together to provide customers around-the-clock access to service and support beyond the traditional call center. Today, Cox customers can find service solutions over the phone, via e-mail, and online. Customers can find service where they need it, when they need it, and by whatever support channel they choose.

The heart of Cox's commitment to its customers and community is a local employee base of nearly 600 people. Cox employees live, work, and contribute to the communities where they do business. They are the foundation of customer care and the company's overall success. When you talk to a Cox employee, you are talking to a neighbor.

While technology may change, the company vision never does. Cox Communications will continue to be the best telecommunications company to work for and do business with, improving the quality of life in the communities it serves.

OKLAHOMA TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH PARK

A New Knowledge Community for Emerging Technology Companies

Oklahoma Technology and Research Park (OTRP), in Stillwater, realized a vision with the opening of Venture I, the first of several planned multitenant buildings. The Park—a unique partnership of the City of Stillwater, Meridian Technology Center, Oklahoma State University (OSU), and developers Idea Partnerships, LLC—was created to build a new "knowledge community" based on technology commercialization and to advance economic growth in the region, state, and nation.

Nomadics, Inc., which moved to the Park in 2000 and since has expanded, was OTRP's first company. Nomadics specializes in advanced materials, sensors (including those based on molecular wire technology), and instrumentation.



The OSU Research Laboratory—a high-tech enterprise designed to move technology from the lab to the marketplace—occupies the second floor of Venture 1. Four laboratories opened for business this fall: Radiation Dosimetry, Electron Microprobe, Molecular Diagnostics and Biosensor Technology, and Inorganic Coatings and Corrosion Prevention.

NEXTEP Technologies, Inc. chose to co-locate its research and development functions with the OSU laboratories to further the company's work on radiation measurement systems for water, soil, food, and animals.

OTRP's growing knowledge community creates an environment of innovation and discovery for

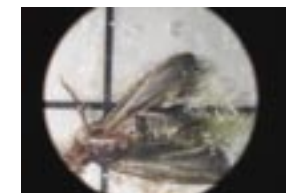
technology firms interested in interacting with university researchers.

For more information, go to www.oktechpark.com.

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network for education, government, and research, is collaborating with Tulsa-based WiTel Communications Group to link to the National Lambda Rail (NLR), an ultra-fast fiber-optic network that is 100 times faster than the conventional Internet. The link will provide a vital connection for Oklahoma researchers competing for federal research dollars. Representatives from the University of Oklahoma (OU), Oklahoma State University (OSU), and the University of Tulsa (TU) will rotate on the NLR national board.

Clusters of biomedical and biotechnology companies are emerging from intellectual property born from medical research at OU in Tulsa and Norman. OSU's Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa is leading the way in tele-medicine with outreach activities that serve the region's rural and Native American communities. Private-sector companies clamor to collaborate with OSU researchers developing sensor technologies at the university's new research facilities in Stillwater's Oklahoma Technology and Research Park. When completed, OSU-Tulsa's Advanced Technology Research Center will deliver next-generation composites and materials for application in a variety of industries.



The aviation technology sector, especially maintenance and repair, continues to play a major role in the Tulsa economy, and a new homeland security industry is emerging from national defense initiatives. Just last year, the state approved a resolution to create the Oklahoma Nanotechnology Institute, which now serves as a springboard for nanotechnology companies and researchers from OU, OSU, and TU. Oklahoma's EPSCoR Program, a National Science Foundation partnership, supports the NanoNet research efforts and research experiences of undergraduate students at OU, OSU, and TU.

National studies show that employment in the technology sector suffered from economic restructuring strategies, but new studies indicate the setbacks are temporary. The Tulsa labor market fared better than others. Soon after publication of these national studies, evidence was that the high-tech job market was improving. New research findings reveal a trend in high-tech labor growth in the country. The benefactor of this trend is the Tulsa region, where the addition of high-

tech jobs, companies, and industries signal an economic revitalization. The challenge to restore the economy still remains. Tulsa has answered with Vision 2025. **TUL05**

