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Our Mission...

The Enterprise Center, Inc. leads the City of Chattanooga's and Hamilton County's technology-based economic development initiatives, thereby promoting the economic transformation of the City of Chattanooga, Hamilton County, and the Tennessee Valley Corridor.

The Enterprise Center accomplishes this Mission by assisting in the stimulation of new capital investment, encouraging revitalization and promoting research and development.

In addition to coordinating public and private economic and technology development strategies, The Enterprise Center provides advice and assistance to the public and private sectors for economic and social development as well as initiating and managing technology-oriented projects.

In furtherance of its Mission, The Enterprise Center partners and collaborates with local, regional, and national resource institutions.

Ochs Center Research Shows Success Of The Enterprise Center

The Enterprise Center is Serving as a Driving Economic Force in the Region

The Enterprise Center recently released a study that showed The Enterprise Center has had a significant economic impact on the region. The research was conducted by the Ochs Center for Metropolitan Studies, which shows that The Enterprise Center helped inject more than \$220 million into the local economy and contributed to the creation of hundreds of jobs per year over an eight-year period.

The Ochs Center study found that:

- **Day to Day Operations:** Since 2002, The Enterprise Center's day to day operations, exclusive of program activities related to Renewal Community, have resulted in several hundred job-years and \$19 million in total monetary impact to the Chattanooga region.
- **Tax Benefits and Renewal Community Program:** If all of the savings through depreciation were reinvested in the region, total economic impact of the Renewal Community program alone would exceed \$198.7 million in economic activity and more than 1,600 years of employment – an average of approximately 200 jobs per year.
- **Catalyst for Economic Development:** In its ongoing work on technology transfer, transportation and the nuclear renaissance, The Enterprise Center is increasingly seen as a catalyst. Because of its mission and relatively small size, The Enterprise Center can be more opportunistic in seeking out opportunities to bring jobs and investment to the region. In doing so, it is emerging as a key player in regional innovation and the development of a knowledge network. Established in 2002 by then Mayor Bob Corker, The Enterprise Center has spearheaded a number of regional initiatives including the Maglev – high speed rail project; multiple technology transfers; key partnerships with UTC's SimCenter; the Nuclear Renaissance initiative; the Brownfields Program; and the Renewal Community Program, a federal tax incentive program to launch local businesses, create jobs and revitalize distressed communities.

"We contracted with the Ochs Center to conduct an independent analysis of our economic impact over the last eight years," said Jim Hall, chairman of the Board of The Enterprise Center. "We are very pleased with the results and on behalf of the board, I want to thank Rep. Zach Wamp, Sen. Bob Corker, Sen. Lamar Alexander, Mayor Ron Littlefield and Mayor Claude Ramsey for all of their support over the years."

One of the signature programs for The Enterprise Center has been the federally supported Renewal Community initiative, which provided tax incentives for new and expanding businesses and developments such as Niedlov's Bakery, the Bread Factory, Southern Saddlery, Federal Express, Loose Cannon Galleries and Two North Shore.

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“We would not have been as successful in the community without the tax incentives provided by the Renewal Community initiative,” said John Clark, owner of several RC developments including Southern Saddlery and The Bread Factory. “It wasn’t long ago that these were blighted areas with abandoned buildings, vacant lots, and rampant crime. Now the neighborhoods are alive with energy where families can live, feel safe, and enjoy a great restaurant or shop.”

J. Wayne Cropp, president and CEO of The Enterprise Center, said the center is using the benchmarks of the study to serve as the compass in driving the organization forward.

“The information provided by the Ochs Center helped us further identify what it is we need to do to stay focused and grow,” Mr. Cropp stated. “Even in the next couple of months, we will be making a series of additional announcements that will help continue to boost the economy and create more jobs.”

“By acting as a catalyst, The Enterprise Center has a track record of helping create real jobs and new economic activity in the region – especially through the Renewal Community program,” said David Eichenthal, president of the Ochs Center for Metropolitan Studies. “Our analysis suggests that going forward, The Enterprise Center can play a similar role for newer ventures in technology transfer and transportation.”

Congressman Wamp Recognized At Board Meeting

On October 4th at the Enterprise Center’s Board of Directors Meeting, Congressman Wamp was honored for his contribution to and advocacy for technology-based economic development in the region and nation. The Enterprise Center’s Board passed a resolution which stated in part “Congressman Zach Wamp has provided our Country, our State and Southeast Tennessee with extraordinary vision and outstanding leadership, and has served the public with great distinction and made many valuable contributions during his career.”

“The Board of Directors of The Enterprise Center expresses its profound gratitude and appreciation to Congressman Zach Wamp for his tremendous support for the mission and initiatives of The Enterprise Center and for his significant contributions to economic development, which have improved the Community and have led to the ascendancy of Chattanooga’s, Hamilton County’s and Southeast Tennessee’s world-renowned reputation for cutting-edge technology-based research and development.”



Pictured from left to right: Board Chairman Jim Hall, Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield, Congressman Zach Wamp, Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey, Enterprise Center President and CEO J. Wayne Cropp

Innovative Technology Provides Clean, Reliable Power For Tennessee Valley



You may have heard this past summer that officials and representatives in Chattanooga, inaugurated the Tennessee Valley's first Bloom Box, June 28, 2010, a 100 kW energy server based on cutting-edge fuel cell technology from California's Bloom Energy. This is the first deployment of a commercial-size Bloom Box outside of its home in Silicon Valley, California. The Enterprise Center played a key role early on in facilitating the Fuel Cell project demonstration and testing at the National Center for Computational Engineering (SimCenter). The original federal grant was awarded to The Enterprise Center for the project. As part of our continuing mission to leverage local research assets to advance technology related economic development, The Enterprise Center sees the installation of the Bloom Box at the EPB building, a great example of partnership, innovation, and community spirit. In case you missed it, details of the event are below.

Unveiling the Bloom Box in Chattanooga

The project is the continuation of a long-standing partnership, facilitated by Congressman Zach Wamp, between the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the National Center for Computational Engineering (SimCenter), EPB, TVA, The Enterprise Center and Bloom Energy that began with Bloom's first field trial of its technology in 2006 at the SimCenter. That successful field trial was a key milestone on Bloom's path to commercialization.

"UTC and the Tennessee Valley, have been exceptional partners from the beginning and the valuable insights gained here have helped shape our product into the commercially viable entity it is today," said KR Sridhar, Co-founder and CEO of Bloom Energy. "We are thrilled to be here to celebrate the continuation of Bloom Energy's collaboration with Tennessee's Congressional leadership, the Tennessee Valley Authority, EPB, and the University."

With major support from Congressman Zach Wamp, and in conjunction with TVA, this project will provide 24/7 clean reliable power to EPB's building.

"The Tennessee Valley has been involved with this technology for a long time, and we're now at the point of demonstrating its viability as a compliment to the grid. The ultimate goal would be to manufacture fuel cells in Tennessee and further advance the new manufacturing boon in the Tennessee Valley Corridor," said Congressman Wamp. "Bloom's technology could have a tremendous impact for the world in creating new energy sources and is cleaner and more efficient than much of today's power generation. Fuel cell technology coupled with increased nuclear energy could significantly shrink our country's carbon footprint."

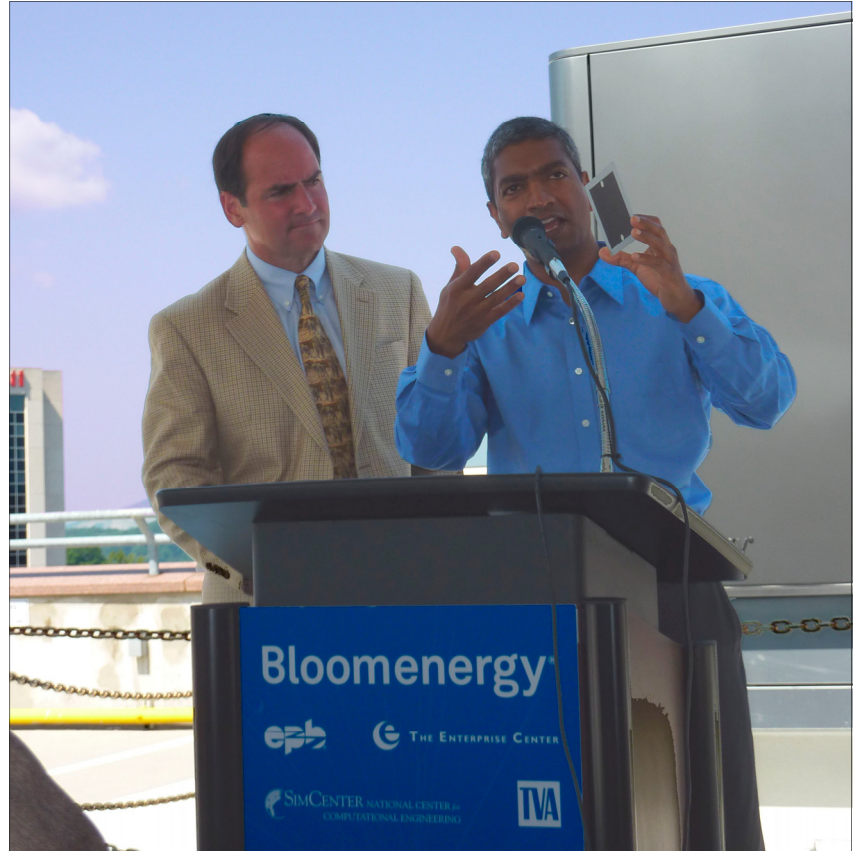
Located on the top floor of the EPB building's parking garage, in downtown Chattanooga, the Bloom Box will be a showcase piece for innovation and for successful collaboration between the public and private sectors. By working closely with TVA, this project also highlights how distributed generation technologies such as Bloom's can be an integral part of a clean smart grid for the 21st century.

Chattanooga continues to be on the forefront of technology. Home to the National Center for Computational Engineering (SimCenter), the largest municipal 100% Fiber Optics network, and one of the most automated Smart Grids in the nation, the 100 kW Energy Server is yet another shining example of Chattanooga quickly becoming a recognized national leader in state-of-the-art thinking and innovation.



Pictured left: Jim Hall, Chairman of the Board for The Enterprise Center addresses the audience at the unveiling of Bloom Energy's Energy Server™ atop the EPB building in Chattanooga, TN

Pictured right: Congressman Zach Wamp aside Bloom Energy Co-Founder and CEO KR Sridhar, June 28, 2010, highlighting solid oxide fuel cell technology.



Pictured left: Bloom's Energy Server™, built with patented solid oxide fuel cell technology, now part of EPB's system in downtown Chattanooga.

The Enterprise Center Hosts Educational Workshops

On September 10th, The Enterprise Center convened a workshop for local IT companies and entrepreneurs. Commercialization Manager, David Sims from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, was invited to present software and related technology from the computing and computational sciences directorate at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The workshop featured lots of brainstorming on ways to apply technology in the realms of optimization, security, knowledge discovery, and failure forecasting. Look for future technology brainstorming sessions in the coming months.

The Enterprise Center hosted an Association of University Technology Managers - sponsored audio conference in September on effective leadership and Executive-In-Residence programs. Topics addressed ways to drive innovation, entrepreneurship, and commercialization in our local economy.

Get Ready For The 2011 Technology Transfer Conference!

Last year over 115 business professionals, entrepreneurs, and venture capitalists came together to attend The Third Annual Technology Transfer Conference on April 23rd at The IMAX Theater in downtown Chattanooga. Attendees heard keynote speaker John Freisinger, Director of Project Management and Business Assistance at Technology Ventures Corporation, whose presentation exceeded our expectations and helped launch our conference and our upcoming year's work in a great way. Participants also benefited from an informative panel discussion on topics such as funding resources, technologies available and steps on the process of a successful technology transfer.

2011's conference is already in the works and sponsorship opportunities will be available soon. Contact the Office of Technology Development and Transfer to reserve space early and join us next year for the Fourth Annual Technology Transfer Conference!

THANKS AGAIN FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR SPONSORS!



Technology Transfer

The Enterprise Center's Office of Technology Development and Transfer establishes partnerships with national laboratories, federal research-oriented programs, and university-based research centers in possession of intellectual property, including licenses, patents and inventions and then serves as a link between business, industry, entrepreneurs, and manufacturers who have a problem to solve or who are interested in licensing a technology or an invention for profitable purposes.

With appreciation for support: City of Chattanooga, Ron Littlefield, Mayor.

Jim Hall
Chairman of the Board

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