



Major Happenings



The region gained one new *Fortune* 1000 headquarters with the relocation of technology company **ASGN Inc.** The \$12.4 million expansion increases its existing Henrico County workforce by 120. “Virginia’s strong pipeline of information technology talent for both the commercial and government sectors make it an ideal place for us...” said Ted Hanson, CEO/ President.

11 Fortune 1000 headquarters

T-Mobile

T-Mobile’s opened a \$30 million call center in Henrico County that retained close to 800 jobs and will create up to 500 new jobs. The telecom giant’s center totals 131,000 square feet.

SimpliSafe

Boston-based **SimpliSafe**, a producer of self-installed home security systems, will invest \$5.5 million to establish a customer support operation in Henrico County, creating 572 new jobs.

A 1.1 million-square-foot, \$50 million distribution center for **Lowe’s Home Improvement** is planned on a 200-acre site in Hanover County, along Interstate 95 in the Graymont Industrial Park. “The distribution center is expected to bring more than 100 new jobs to Ashland, and we are excited to join the Ashland community,” said Steve Salazar, a spokesman for Lowe’s.



The White House announced that Richmond-based **Phlow**, a public benefit pharma maker, would receive \$354 million for reshoring the manufacturing of essential medicines at risk of shortage. The team will use continuous processes to help manufacture its active pharmaceutical ingredients toward a vaccine for COVID-19.



CoStar Group, the leading provider of commercial real estate information, analytics and online marketplaces, announced a 51,000-square-foot lease to support 200 new employees. “Since our decision to headquarter our global research operations in the City of Richmond in 2016, we have remained fully committed to the economic development and growth of this community ...” said Lisa Ruggles, SVP of Global Research, Analytics and News.



Facebook recently announced the first phase of its \$2 billion data center campus is now online. The multi-building development connects to the MAREA trans-Atlantic fiber cable. Facebook's campus adds to the region's data center cache which already includes facilities by QTS and Capital One. Both Henrico and Chesterfield counties have reduced their data center tax rates to \$0.40 per \$100 and \$0.24 per \$100, respectively.

\$335 MILLION

is granted annually to Virginia Commonwealth University in sponsored research, earning VCU the 'Highest Research Activity' designation by the Carnegie Foundation. This includes funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to reinvent how drugs are produced.

International firms are finding success in Greater Richmond, Virginia, causing the region to be named a top mid-sized city in the U.S. for foreign direct investment strategy by fDi Magazine for transport and warehousing strategy. Recent international investments include **Rose Holm, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare, Cartograf** and **ERNI Electronics**.



A Top City for Transport and Warehousing Strategy



imagination at work

Virginia ranks as a top state in tech. Here in Greater Richmond, GE Cyber Security, Thomson Reuters and the WiPro have facilities. **Vytal Studios**, a technology-based education and training content developer and producer, will invest \$6.8 million to relocate its corporate headquarters from Austin, Texas, to the City of Richmond. It plans to create 155 new jobs.

Grocery retailer **Wegmans Food Markets**, which has stores throughout the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions, will invest \$175 million to establish a full-service, regional distribution operation in Hanover County. The new 700-employee campus will allow the company to expand its distribution network on the East Coast and accommodate its growing retail footprint.



Prosper here.