



FLORIDA



St. Johns County, Fla.: In November 2016, Florida governor Rick Scott visited iDeal Aluminum in St. Augustine (St. Johns County) to announce that the state had added nearly 9,000 new jobs in the previous month. iDeal manufactures aluminum fences, gates, and railings, employing 110.

ufacturers, the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County has created the Technology Coast Manufacturing and Engineering (TeCMEN) to be the premier business advocate for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) industries. TeCMEN provides opportunities for innovative collaboration and advanced technical expertise locally, regionally, and in the competitive global marketplace.

PASCO COUNTY

Just 30 miles north of Tampa and 50 miles west of Orlando, Pasco County is connected to Tampa Bay's vibrant economy and cultural amenities with easy access to major highways, airports, railway lines and deep seaport. One of the fastest growing counties in the U.S., Pasco has been busy outpacing the rest of Florida in terms of new employers. Today, the area is home to more than 350 thriving manufacturing companies employing more than 7,000. Accelerating growth is the fact that it is easy to export from this Southwest Florida location. The most recent Industry Survey conducted by Pasco Economic Development Council showed that 89% of the products manufactured in Pasco County are destined for areas outside Pasco to other parts of Florida, throughout the United States and international markets.

PLANT CITY

Manufacturing growth continues to pick up in Plant City. Industry leaders already with a presence there include Highland Packaging, Morrow Steel, M&N Plastics and numerous others. These companies point to the city's pro-business attitude and great location along I-4, the corridor connecting Orlando and Tampa, as critical to success. More than a mil-

lion people live within a 20-mile radius of Plant City, with a labor pool of more than a half-million.

SEBRING

Sebring, located in Highlands County in the heart of Florida, has more than 82 percent of the state's population within 150 miles. Manufacturers there include CitraPac, a specialty food manufacturer based there for more than 90 years.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

In Florida's St. Johns County, local manufacturers grow through exporting. The area is home to a diverse group of manufacturers producing a diverse range of products from military aircraft and aluminum fencing to acoustic wood panels and power supply systems. Many of these companies are involved in international trade, exporting their products worldwide. Several local manufacturers, including Northrop Grumman, Solar Stik, and Carlisle Interconnect Technologies are defense contractors. Northrop Grumman has established a new Aircraft Integration Center of Excellence at its existing facility in St. Augustine, one of five such centers nationwide. Along with Northrop Grumman, the county's other leading exporters include Rulon International, iDeal Aluminum, David Dobbs Enterprises and German-based 2G Energy. The region's international trade is supported by the Northeast Florida Export Plan and Global Cities Initiative, which promotes the benefits of exporting. Along with a great quality of life, individuals and business leaders are being attracted by access to a multi-modal transportation network, a growing regional airport, and a Foreign Trade Zone designation linked to nearby JAXPORT.



Why are business executives choosing *St. Johns County*?



- Top 20 fastest growing county in the United States.
- Home to the nation's oldest city, St. Augustine.
- Florida's top-ranked school system.
- Award-winning career academies providing skilled workforce.
- Access to multi-modal transportation networks.
- Located in Foreign Trade Zone #64 with close proximity to JAXPORT.
- Partnership providing export assistance resources.
- Cost-effective location with a pro-business climate.
- World-class beaches and recreational amenities.
- Long-standing history as one of Florida's first counties.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY
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