

Bedford Business

September 2010

The 'Invest In Bedford' Team are pleased to inform you of the recently launched new 'Invest In Bedford' website and newsletter. Designed to bring the latest information to businesses, the website has been revamped to be a comprehensive guide for any business operating or considering locating in the Bedford area and to provide assistance to new businesses that are just starting their journey.

This quarterly newsletter features highlights from Bedford's business world, gives you a sneak preview of upcoming events and contains important snippets of information for local businesses.

News



Olympic Opportunities:

In the summer of 2012 the Olympic and Paralympic Games come to London. The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Ltd have various contract opportunities available for tender, [click here](#) to see what's currently available.

Local businesses handed a university challenge:

Bedford businesses with innovative ideas can access highly sought after university expertise this summer with a new East of England Development Agency (EEDA) 'Innovation Voucher'. Businesses have until Tuesday 30 November to apply for a voucher at [click here](#).



Grants for bright business ideas:

Local businesses and entrepreneurs from Bedford can secure up to £20,000 from EEDA's Proof of Market fund to test the commercial potential of new products or processes. Applications will be accepted up until Friday 10th September 2010, [click here](#) to find out more and apply.

Business Networking:

Many successful business people would agree that networking is a very important skill to have, and this is especially true for entrepreneurs. Effective networking can help you get more customers, partners and investors for your business. Interested in joining a Bedford networking group? [Click here](#) to see what's currently available in Bedford.



Business Training:

To see a comprehensive range of training and development opportunities for businesses from the University of Bedfordshire [click here](#). To see what's available from Cranfield School of Management please [click here](#).

Bedford Property Search:

Thinking about moving premises? To show you the range of sites and premises that are currently available in the Bedford area and help identify the right premises for you, we have developed a commercial property database including offices, business centres, industrial units, warehouses, commercial land and retail property. [Click here](#) to search for commercial property.



Bedford Business Directory:

We are happy to announce that the new 2010/11 directory is now in development and we are looking to you to help build it up. Please [click here](#) to get your copy. If you are currently not in the directory and would like to be, please contact us and we will be happy to add you!

Graduate Internships:

Could your business benefit from an enthusiastic graduate? If so, why not take advantage of this national initiative to help both local businesses and graduates seeking a quality work experience. This scheme offers businesses an extra, high calibre resource at a low cost. The internships will last for 12 weeks, with the graduates receiving min. wage from the employers, who will receive a substantial subsidy from the University of Bedfordshire. For more information [click here](#).

New Successes

Major Food Manufacturer Invests in Bedford

Lantmannen Unibake, a €700m turnover company with 3,800 employees in 18 countries, is developing a new 200 employee+ manufacturing facility in Bedford. They are hoping to have the new facility up and running in early 2011.



Business booming at the i-lab

Celebrating its sixth birthday, Bedford i-lab is enjoying its highest ever occupancy levels, despite the tough economic conditions. An incubator for innovative local businesses, many tenants continue to flourish, adding to its impressive track record of helping 35 small businesses grow. For more information on Bedford's i-lab see www.bedfordi-lab.com

Help us to help you

Found it useful to have all this business information at your fingertips in an easy to read newsletter? Remember to keep checking the [website](#) for exciting news and events, and remember to keep us up to date on your business success and innovation stories.

You can now also follow us on twitter and facebook, which will be updated regularly with all important, breaking news. Click on the links in the footer below.

We look forward to speaking to you soon!

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