

USA Faculty Collaborate with Technology & Research Park Partners

As chairman of the USA College of Engineering's electrical and computer engineering department, Dr. Mohammad Alam has watched his department's research grow significantly over the last four years.

Alam has led faculty and students to create a Fuel Cell Operated Smart Home, an experimental house powered by state-of-the-art fuel cell technology that offers an environmentally friendly alternative to high-priced, diminishing fossil fuels. The house is a fully functional two-room house powered entirely by fuel cells, which convert natural gas to electricity. It's part of a collaborative research project between faculty and students in USA's electrical and computer engineering department and Radiance Technologies, a local industry partner in the USA Technology and Research Park.

Alam said the partnership has benefited his faculty colleagues, students and the local company. Plus, it has helped expand the local technology industry and brought about 15 new high-tech jobs to Mobile.

"Radiance feels that our relationship with USA's College of Engineering is important to our long-term success on the Gulf Coast," said Radiance Vice President Mark Thomas. "We are excited about the future and working with USA faculty, students and graduates."



"In the long run, my plan is that we will graduate students from USA, and some of them will move into jobs at Radiance, Mentor Graphics and other technology partner companies," Thomas said.

The fuel cell project was developed through a \$4.5 million research grant from the Department of Energy. Alam said other joint projects with Radiance account for an additional \$3 million in research funds.

"The relationship is very productive and things are moving in the right direction," Alam said.

USA Amenities and Benefits Provided to Tech Park Companies

- Tuition discounts for employees and dependents
- Discount on purchases at the USA Bookstore
- Use of recreation center facilities
- Faculty/staff rates to attend cultural and artistic events
- Faculty/staff rates to attend USA athletic events
- Access to library resources on campus
- Use of cafeteria and catering resources
- Campus shuttle transit system
- Membership in USA Credit Union
- Per-use fees for specialized research equipment
- Regular interaction with faculty and students
- Easy access to inventions and technologies

For more information on the USA Technology and Research Park, visit southalabama.edu/usatrp or contact us at (251)460-6384.



University of South Alabama Technology and Research Park

Update

Volume 1

2005



Above: Building One, with 76,000 square feet of office space, opened in November 2003 and is fully occupied.



The USA Technology and Research Park, located on 35 acres just north of the main University campus, is a focal point of high-technology economic growth for Mobile and the Upper Gulf Coast, which will attract, retain and grow sustainable, knowledge-based jobs. The partnership between the University and high-tech industry offers many opportunities for collaboration between faculty, students and business leaders.

Left and below: Currently under construction, Building Two will open in 2006.



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Greetings:

From its early beginnings, the University of South Alabama has provided a place for students to discover and learn, for faculty to teach and pursue research or scholarly interests and skilled professionals to deliver specialized care to our citizens. The mark of a vibrant university is its success in producing trained graduates, the production of significant discoveries and the extension of this knowledge to benefit the citizens it serves.

To further these goals, the USA Technology and Research Park was launched in 2002. The Park links university resources and technology businesses to expand educational opportunities for students, afford new research relationships for faculty and offer unique growth prospects for businesses focusing on information technology, engineering and biomedical products.

In its short history, the USA Technology and Research Park has attracted vibrant corporations seeking more than convenient work spaces. Each firm has developed a unique relationship with the University that encourages future workforce training through student externships, fosters collaborative research with university faculty, and enhances the firm's ability to explore new product innovations and business models. We strongly believe that these new relationships strengthen university training programs and encourage new local economic development that creates technologically advanced, economically beneficial, and environmentally sustainable jobs.

I encourage you to explore the benefits of locating your firm in the USA Technology and Research Park on the USA main campus.

Sincerely,

V. Gordon Moulton
President

Accelerated Technology, a Mentor Graphics Division

Description: Accelerated Technology (AT) provides products and services worldwide to a wide variety of end users, OEMs and IC vendors. Organizations that have taken advantage of AT's source code, no-royalties business model include Compaq, Honeywell, Motorola, NASA, Sony and Texas Instruments. AT's software products are used in a broad selection of applications ranging from telecommunications, networking and consumer electronics devices to industrial control, military/aerospace and medical instrumentation. The Nucleus family of products takes developers from start to finish with a full suite of Nucleus software including modeling software, prototyping tools, real-time operating system (RTOS), middleware and development tools. Nucleus software is highly optimized, extremely scalable and has a very small memory footprint.

Year Founded: 1990, acquired by Mentor Graphics in 2002

Employees: Approximately 200 in Mobile (there are other division employees located outside Mobile)

Growth Plans:

"While we are an international company with significant engineering and sales resources outside of Mobile, the corporate headquarters are located here with almost 200 people in the office. We expect continued growth in Mobile as the division's needs in all areas of the business increase," Jamie Little, director of worldwide sales.

Reasons you selected USA Technology & Research Park:

"The primary benefit of being at USA Tech and Research Park is the access to the University, its services and mostly, its students. Secondly, the location seems to be central enough that most employees are happy with their commute. Finally, it is a beautiful place that gives the employees a feeling of having 'arrived,' and it gives them a certain sense of pride. Nice place and a nice location...we're here to stay," Neil Henderson, general manager.



Computer Technology Solutions, Inc. (CTS)

Description: We help our clients use technology to solve business problems and to achieve competitive advantage.

Year Founded: 1993

Employees: 110

Growth Plans:

"We plan to continue to grow our core services component while leveraging our industry expertise in areas such as financial services, utilities, education, and manufacturing to move to a hybrid products/services model. We will use our Mobile office for much of our production (software development/integration and quality assurance)," said Mark Wavra, vice president of operations.

Reasons you selected USA Technology & Research Park:

"We chose the USA Technology & Research Park based on our close relationship with the USA School of Computer and Information Sciences. Our CEO was once a faculty member," Wavra said.



Radiance Technologies, Inc.

Description: Radiance is a 100 percent employee-owned small business specializing in the application of emerging technologies to deliver government and commercial solutions. Leveraging its record of technical innovation and operational expertise with military and intelligence clients, Radiance continues to provide products and services that save time, money and lives.

Since its founding in March of 1999, Radiance has grown in every way. Operations have expanded from a single office in the Southeast to 23 corporate offices and project offices across the globe. The number of employees has grown to more than 250. In addition to providing systems engineering and technology development services to the government, Radiance has added the capability to design, develop, fabricate, integrate and test both components and systems. Annual revenue in 2004 reached \$35 million, capping a period of growth that led Inc. Magazine to name Radiance to its Inc. 500 list of the fastest-growing privately held companies.

Year Founded: 1999

Employees: 250 (six in Mobile)

Growth Plans: "We will be adding two more employees in Mobile in the short term and hope to double our size by the end of next year," said Mark Thomas, vice president of Gulf Coast operations.

Reasons you selected USA Technology & Research Park:

"Radiance wanted to solidify our relationship with USA and help grow the Technology & Research Park. We have two large research and development efforts under way in which we are teamed with USA. Also, being a technology company we feel it is important to locate around similar companies to foster collaboration," Thomas said.



Strand Associates, Inc.

Description: Strand has been providing civil and environmental engineering services for public and private sector clients since 1946. Strand currently maintains offices in Mobile; Madison and Milwaukee, Wis.; Louisville and Lexington, Ky.; Lancaster, Ohio; Joliet, Ill.; and Columbus and Indianapolis, Ind. Strand provides a full range of services including water supply engineering, wastewater treatment and conveyance, transportation engineering, and civil and municipal engineering. Public Works Magazine named Strand one of the top 75 AEC firms working with public entities.

Year Founded: 1946

Employees: 320

Growth Plans:

"Strand has an ongoing annual growth objective of 8 percent and based on the first half of the year, we anticipated exceeding this goal in 2005," said Tina Sebold, P.E., P.H.

Reasons you selected USA Technology & Research Park:

"We decided to relocate to the University of South Alabama's campus because of the potential opportunities to team with the University. In addition, the ability to develop relationships with University professors was another deciding factor as well as the facilities are outstanding both aesthetically and technically," Sebold said.



Toxicological & Environmental Associates, Inc.

Description: TEA is a rapidly growing risk-based remediation firm headquartered in Baton Rouge, La., that specializes in groundwater remediation, risk assessment and other innovative remedial technologies. TEA boasts a strong national and international client base, the largest bioremediation project for chlorinated solvents in the world, and top experts in environmental toxicology, risk assessment, bioremediation and phytoremediation.

Year Founded: 1996

Employees: 40, including sister companies

Growth Plans:

"We expect to expand to four to five scientists/engineers at Mobile office within the year. We are currently seeking an Environmental Toxicologist, Environmental Modeling Scientist/Engineer and Project Manager," said Dr. Don Blancher, principal project advisor.

Reasons you selected USA Technology & Research Park:

"Over half of TEA's staff have graduate degrees in science and engineering. A close working relationship with a University is essential to our future growth, both in the support services offered at the Research Park as well as access to qualified candidates from USA's various graduate programs, such as environmental toxicology, chemical and civil engineering, computer sciences and marine sciences," said Blancher.



Enveloc, Inc.

Description: Data back-up service provider. Enveloc owns servers located in Mobile and Los Angeles and has customers located throughout the United States and several foreign countries.

Year Founded: 1995

Employees: 4

Growth plans:

"Revenues and profits are growing at a fast-pace every year. Our growth plans are focused on increasing our client base, our licensee base and the size of our headquarters in Mobile," said William W. Oppenheimer, president and chief executive.

Reasons you selected USA Technology & Research Park:

"We wanted to be able to find a good source of new employees, and we wanted to be able to contribute something to South Alabama because it's such a great school. Plus, we wanted the new ideas, new products and ways to improve existing products that might be gained through working with other companies in the Research Park," Oppenheimer said.



Registered Trademark of Enveloc, Inc.

New Director Appointed for USA Tech Park



William Ker Ferguson has been appointed the new director of the USA Technology and Research Park effective October 1, 2005.

Robert W. Galbraith Jr., USA senior associate vice president for research administration, said Ferguson, formerly director and chief executive of The University of Western Ontario Research and Development Park at London, Ontario, Canada, has a wealth of experience and capabilities to draw from to help develop the USA Tech Park in Mobile.

At Western Ontario, Ferguson was instrumental in managing 100 percent occupancy in the main campus-based Technology Park and later developing a second research and development Park at Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, in collaboration with local government, industry and academe.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to work with a diverse range of professionals and other interested parties to achieve mutual economic development goals, while preserving the interests and mission of the USA Tech Park," Ferguson said. "Mobile is at the center of the Gulf Coast I-10 corridor, and the opportunities for collaboration with business, industry and the research community at the regional universities provide a synergy that is vital to the future of the USA Tech Park."

USA President Gordon Moulton said, "We are pleased to add a person of Ker Ferguson's capabilities to our research and economic development team. He will develop industry connections, new collaborative research projects and workforce training activities."

The USA Tech Park offers enriched education of local citizens and the creation of technologically advanced, economically beneficial and environmentally sustainable jobs.

Ferguson and his wife, Cindy, will live in Mobile. Contact him at (251) 460-6384 or wkferguson@usouthal.edu