

KANSAS RANKS 1st IN NATION FOR HIGH-TECH INDUSTRY JOB GROWTH

According to the TechAmerica 2009 Cyberstates Report

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Topeka, Kan. (April 16, 2009) – Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC) announced today that Kansas ranks No. 1 nationally in high-tech industry job growth. According to the recently released 2009 Cyberstates Report published by TechAmerica, Kansas high-tech companies added jobs at a rate of 8.1 percent during the most recently reported period of 2007. Additionally Kansas high-tech companies paid their workers 91% more than the state’s average wage during that period. Following is comparison between 2006 and 2007 of Kansas’ high-tech sector illustrating this growth:

	2006	2007
High-Tech Employment	53,824	58,157
High-Tech Establishments	3,254	3,221
High-Tech Payroll	\$3.7 B	\$4.2 B
High-Tech Average Wage	\$68,474	\$71,702
Employment Growth		
Communications Services	26,000	27,800
Computer Systems Design	8,700	9,100
Engineering Services	8,400	8,900
Communications Equipment Mfg.	2,700	3,100
R&D and Testing Labs	1,800	2,800

“This is a bright spot of economic news that shows that Kansas has been getting it right in regard to high-tech economic growth. These numbers demonstrate that we are providing the tools and environment needed to grow this high-impact portion of our economy,” according to Tracy Taylor, President and CEO of KTEC. “We need to continue to look at the proven growth engines to place Kansas in a strong position as we weather this economic downturn with the rest of the nation.”

According to Erik Pages, President of Virginia-based EntreWorks Consulting, focused on innovative economic development strategies, “This data shows Kansas has a high concentration of high-tech employment and is noticeably, a high- performer overall. However, to continue growth in the high-tech sector, it is imperative that the state of Kansas continue investing in technology-based economic development through university research, entrepreneurship and capital.”

Three years ago, KTEC began discussions with industry leaders to form a trade association dedicated to strengthening and expanding this sector. KTEC officially launched the association called Software and Information Technology Association of Kansas (SITAKS) in June, 2008 with 18 founding companies. According to Miriam Ubben, SITAKS President, the organization now is 73 member companies strong and has strong participation from such companies as Garmin, Perceptive Software, LSI, Alexander Open Systems, Freightquote, and Triple-I. “Kansas is fortunate to have such a strong and vibrant software and IT industry. With 3,200 software and IT companies here, paying more than \$4.2 billion annually in high-tech wages – these companies are significant contributors to the economy.”

About TechAmerica: Cyberstates examines the size and scope of the high-technology industry in terms of jobs, wages, and other factors nationally and in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. *Cyberstates 2009* relies on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The report provides 2008 national data on tech employment as well as 2007 national and state-by-state data on high-tech employment, wages, establishments, payroll, wage differential, and employment concentration. All data are the most recent available at the time of publication. <http://www.techamerica.org/>

About KTEC: KTEC is a private/public partnership established by Kansas to promote technology based economic development. KTEC assists Kansas entrepreneurs and technology companies by supporting the development and commercialization of new technologies through a statewide network designed and built to support researchers, entrepreneurs, and technology companies through each phase of the technology life cycle. The ultimate goal of the program is to create rapid growth companies and higher paying jobs. To learn more about KTEC, visit: www.ktec.com