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More jobs heading to suburb

AIT in Pflugerville to hire about 55 engineers, designers

Austin Business Journal - by [Kate Harrington](#) ABJ Staff

After adding employees earlier this year, a Pflugerville company is again poised to grow.

Advanced Integration Technologies, which has been in Pflugerville since 2007 as AIT and for several years before that as Integrated Flow Systems, has grown its workforce this year from 12 to 25. That employee growth came when AIT's California office shut down, and its Arizona and Texas offices gained workers.

The company is again planning to grow now that Pflugerville has assembled an incentive package that will enable AIT to escalate to more than 80 employees in the next six months.

Robert Miner, vice president of operations for AIT's Pflugerville location, said the local site competed with AIT's Arizona headquarters to gain those California jobs. Now that it has the financial help from the **Pflugerville Community Development Corp.** to add more employees, he said AIT's Pflugerville site will pursue new clients. The company's headquarters are now in Arizona.

The incentive agreement from the Community Development Corp. offers AIT \$2,000 per newly created full-time job for up to 80 new employees.

Those jobs must include health and dental benefits, and the employees must be employed for at least one year. The agreement also calls for a one-time payment of \$100,000 for the purchase of capital equipment related to the manufacturing of the gas panels. The new employees will focus on engineering and manufacturing.

AIT develops and supplies modules and subsystems to the semiconductor, solar and flat-panel display industries. Charles Simon, director of the Community Development Corp., said one of AIT's Central Texas customers is **Applied Materials Inc.**

Miner said the California office closed as a cost-savings measure.

"We realized other places, like Pflugerville, were in a position to provide the same high-quality work for less cost."

According to information compiled by the **Austin Chamber of Commerce**, four companies have relocated from California to the Austin area through September of this year, bringing a total of 241 jobs.

“Our location in Pflugerville was able to prove two key things to our corporate headquarters: We have the local brain power and local willpower to handle new business,” Miner said. “Winning an incentive package was a critical component of providing such proof. It’s a win for our business that’s a win for the community as well.”

AIT occupies about 30,000 square feet at 1007 Heatherwilde Blvd., which includes a 3,500-square-foot clean room. Miner said the company is not adding space to accommodate the new employees, but is reconfiguring its existing space.

Simon said the agreement with AIT and that company’s employee growth is a win for Pflugerville because it helps the city reach its goal of expanding its daytime population.

“We like recruiting of course,” Simon said. “But any time we can work with a company that’s here already, and help them grow, that’s exciting.”

Pflugerville, which is just north of Austin, has had similar successes earlier this year.

This summer, a California manufacturer, Directed Manufacturing, moved its headquarters from San Diego to Pflugerville, with plans to expand its manufacturing in Central Texas. In fact, Simon said, the agreement with AIT was born out of the PCDC’s work with Directed Manufacturing when AIT heard about the incentive agreement that helped the California company move here.

Advanced Integration Technologies

Headquarters: Chandler, Ariz.

Markets: Semiconductor, solar, aerospace, medical, kiosk, gaming, medical equipment, metrology

History: The company was born in 2007 as a result of a merger between American Integration Technologies and Integrated Flow Systems

Web site: www.ifspurity.com

Courtesy of JB Goodwin