



Contact: Elizabeth Arevalo
561.835.1008, cell 561.846.2832
earevalo@bdb.org

BDB assists two companies to expand operations in Palm Beach County
Creating 60 new jobs for Palm Beach County residents

(WEST PALM BEACH, FL) The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, Inc. (BDB) announced today that two companies have decided to expand their operations adding 60 new jobs for local residents.

“The Business Development Board continues to see solid activity from companies looking to grow in Palm Beach County. These companies are citing numerous reasons for expanding in the area: availability of a diverse workforce, quality of life, affordable real estate and easy access to transportation,” said Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County.

The new relocation and expansion projects are as follows:

Image Skin Care

Image Skin Care (www.imageskincare.com), an international pharmaceutical grade skin care company, was founded and formulated by Marc and Janna Ronert in 2003. The company is dedicated and committed to providing its customers with the highest integrity of service, professional products and continuing education in the field of skincare and esthetic procedures.

Headquartered in Palm Beach County since 2007 and starting here with four employees in a 6,000 sq. ft. facility, Image Skin Care has continued to grow, employing 40 people today and selling products in 27 countries. Image Skin Care recently purchased a 35,000 sq. ft. facility in Lantana. The new facility will allow the company to expand its corporate offices, research and development space, sales, customer service, and distribution activities. The company expects to add 30 new jobs within the next three to five years.

The BDB advised Image Skin Care of available grant, loan, and incentive programs, and provided introductions to workforce support and other appropriate business resources.

“Palm Beach County offers a prestigious headquarter location, a competitive business environment, and a well-prepared workforce,” said Janna Ronert. “We enjoy our relationship with the Business Development Board and we’re pleased to have the opportunity to expand our operations in the County”.

Signet Diagnostic Corporation

Signet Diagnostic Corporation (www.nowleap.com) is a Licensed Medical Laboratory and Device Developer. Founded in Palm Beach County in 1993, Signet began a technology driven approach towards isolating non-allergic immune reactions in an artificial environment as they occur inside a living human. The Mediator Release Test (MRT®) was developed and patented in 2001 to allow physicians and dietitians to provide the patient-specific oligoantigenic diets missing from Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Migraine and related treatment regimens. Combining literature recommended interventions, Signet pioneered the only turnkey Point-Of-Care Disease Management Programs for Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Migraines, and several related diseases. Their Lifestyle Eating and Performance Programs (LEAP®) are in clinical use by dietitians and physicians seeking improved outcomes for Irritable Bowel, Migraine, Fibromyalgia, and other patients.

In addition to the Mediator Release Test (MRT®), the company developed the necessary equipment to perform the test, and has recently patented another advance in MRT technology. A new fully-automated MRTIII device is nearing product release. The company's headquarters and primary testing facility is in Riviera Beach, although they are now partnering with other labs around the world. They are in the process of expanding their current lab and production facility on Garden Road to accommodate increased demand, will be expanding their facilities by 15,000 sq. ft. over the next (3) years, and project adding 30 new jobs over that time.

The Business Development Board assisted the company with introductions to local and state business resources including funding opportunities, tax incentives, workforce support and the State's Economic Gardening Program. "Our relationship with the BDB has been very valuable to us", stated CEO Michael Hoffman. "Everything we've done in working with them has been leading me to better connectivity and closer to achieving our goals of expanding the company."

About the BDB

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County is the official public/private economic development organization for Palm Beach County and Enterprise Florida. Founded in 1982 as a not-for-profit corporation, our primary purpose is to attract and retain new industry, business investment, high quality jobs and workforce development through corporate relocations, expansions and international trade. During the past five years, the BDB has assisted companies that have created more than 7,700 direct jobs with average salaries greater than \$55,400, resulting in more than \$355 million in capital investment to Palm Beach County and an economic impact that exceeds \$1.8 billion. Additional information can be found at the BDB's Web site, BDB.org.