

A high-angle, blurred photograph of four business professionals walking in a hallway. The floor is made of light-colored square tiles. The individuals are dressed in professional attire, including suits and a dress. The motion blur gives a sense of activity and movement.

Report to Investors  
Third Quarter 2008

we are **Columbus**

**Economic Development Update**

Thank you for your investment in the Columbus Regional Growth Fund. This fund supports the economic growth and development of our community through long-term growth strategies developed by CompeteColumbus and initiatives developed and implemented by the Columbus Chamber.

| Annual Goal                     | Third Quarter  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| \$2.5 million annual investment | \$1.6 million total contributions received; 64% of 2008 goal |

Throughout the year, we have reported collectively on activity and results from the region’s economic development activity. We’re pleased to report the following results in priority areas.

## Key Results

### Grow the logistics industry

- Hired Dan Ricciardi as Executive Director of the Columbus Region Logistics Council
- Hosted six logistics industry journalists, which has resulted in positive articles in World Trade Magazine, Material Handling Management and the American Journal of Transportation
- Held first networking event, which attracted more than 120 attendees
- Positioned logistics to be selected as one of four focus industries studied as part of the Ohio Skills Bank program
- Launched Web site, [columbusregion.com/logistics](http://columbusregion.com/logistics) to assist site selectors and CEOs

### Support local businesses through Chamber membership value

*Note: Programming for Chamber members is not funded through your economic development investment, yet it does contribute to the overall expansion and retention of local businesses.*

- Conducted matchmaking events with OhioHealth and Huntington National Bank that connected small businesses to procurement opportunities through Contacts to Contracts
- Launched Chamber “Green” Council
- Certified five minority-and women-owned businesses through Diversity Bridge portal

## Attract and retain a skilled workforce to meet business needs

- Hosted College Presidents and Deans from 12 of the region's colleges and universities to kick-off columbusinternships.com
- Launched pilot of Young Professionals Ambassador program with NetJets, AEP, Nationwide Insurance, Limited Brands and the Ohio State University Medical Center
- Increased usage of liveworkplay.com site through local business referrals that generated more than 10,000 unique visits, with five average page views

## Increase regionalism, our regional approach to economic development, to strengthen the power of business attraction

- Participated in National Manufacturers Week and corporate calling (Chicago) that resulted in more than 50 new company contacts and five site selector contacts
- Trained economic development partners on Business Retention and Expansion program
- Participated on a business development mission to China that resulted in 55 new logistics contacts and two project leads, in collaboration with the Columbus Regional Airport Authority

## Develop long-term growth strategies

- Completed the development of long-term growth strategies for the automotive/advanced manufacturing industry, building on previous efforts in logistics now being implemented by the Chamber
- Moving the tourism, entertainment and arts industry forward through an initiative to improve the college student experience in Columbus
- Phase one, research and strategy completed. Steering committee, chaired by Dan Rosenthal, Office of the Chairman, NetJets and Denny Griffith, President, CCAD, formed to move easyColumbus forward in Phase II
- Engaging key industry leaders in initiating the development of business cluster strategies in additional areas with an upcoming focus group in agricultural biosciences

Below is a scorecard of jobs attracted, expanded or retained.

| Jobs              | Year to date         | 2008 Goal |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Prospects         | 68 (91% of goal)     | 75        |
| Jobs: new locates | 147 (20% of goal)    | 750       |
| Jobs: expanded    | 925 (123 % of goal)  | 750       |
| Jobs: retained    | 2,224 (222% of goal) | 1,000     |

**The Columbus Chamber leads and supports economic growth and development in the Greater Columbus community.**

Details about the Chamber's 2008 strategies, goals and indicators of success are published in the 2008 Columbus Chamber Action Plan and Mid-Year Milestones, available online at [www.columbus.org](http://www.columbus.org).

CompeteColumbus

ColumbusChamber  
go ahead

150 S. Front St.,  
Suite 200  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614.221.1321 phone  
614.221.1408 fax  
[www.columbus.org](http://www.columbus.org)