



REGIONAL GROWTH PARTNERSHIP
Building a High-Performance Economy

NEWS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Gibney
Regional Growth Partnership
Phone: 419/252-2700

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2008

RGP Establishes Bioscience Presence in Northwest Ohio

TOLEDO, Ohio – In an effort to develop bioscience opportunities in northwest Ohio, the Regional Growth Partnership (RGP) has hired a business development associate to serve as a local liaison for the industry.

Working in conjunction with BioOhio, a statewide nonprofit organization designed to build and accelerate Ohio's bioscience industry, Scott Haas will serve as a regional representative for this fast-growing sector which provides great potential in the creation of new businesses, high-paying jobs and diversity in the number of industries it impacts.

“Establishing a regional presence demonstrates our commitment to promote life sciences by enhancing our abilities to capitalize on opportunities aimed at commercializing new technologies,” said Steve Weathers, president and CEO of the RGP. “Scott will help analyze the bioscience landscape for northwest Ohio and help discover our capabilities, limitations and future opportunities.”

(More)

Haas will work with the region's economic development groups, investors, incubators and others to identify and cultivate bioscience company attraction and formation. In addition, he will compile data and facts about the region's economic indicators and bio-industry assets to support company attraction.

"The biosciences in Ohio are strong and growing," said BioOhio Vice President John F. Lewis Jr. "With more than 800 bioscience entities and more than 100 having expanded or moved into Ohio since 2005, Ohio is a global player and northwest Ohio is a key contributor. Companies such as NAMSA, Charles River Labs, ADM, Bunge, Pioneer, Nemcomed and LexaMed are just a sampling of the region's current activity."

According to a recent BioOhio study, the overall economic impact of Ohio-based bioscience in 2006 was \$146 billion, representing 17.6 percent of Ohio's total economic output. Bioscience also directly and indirectly sustained 1.2 million jobs in Ohio as of 2006.

"The University of Toledo is committed to moving its discoveries from its laboratories to the marketplace, and this move by the RGP will only further support and expedite our efforts, especially in the bio-and-life sciences," said Dr. Jeffrey Gold, UT's executive vice president and provost for health affairs.

The Regional Growth Partnership is a private nonprofit development corporation dedicated to fostering local, national and international economic growth opportunities for Northwest Ohio.

BioOhio is a non-profit organization supported by the Thomas Edison Program of the Ohio Department of Development. Its mission is to accelerate bioscience discovery, innovation and commercialization of global value, driving economic growth, and improving quality of life in Ohio. BioOhio is headquartered in Columbus, with regional business development affiliates in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Athens.

###