

SWED Annual Report: 2005 – 2006

Celebrating 38 Years



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John Stern is a partner at PKS & Company, PA.



Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development, Inc.

One Plaza East, Suite 501 P.O. Box 4700 Salisbury, MD 21803

To Our Members:

For nearly four decades and as detailed in this, our 38th annual report, SWED remained committed to our stated mission of enhancing our socio-economic environment through the preservation and creation of productive employment opportunities.

We recognize that resident businesses are as important as new businesses to our community. In that regard, we were pleased to assist Machining Technologies, Harvard Custom Manufacturing, Life Shield Engineered Systems, Shore Distributors, Silverton Marine, Callidus and many others in their respective expansion plans. Together, these firms anticipate adding hundreds of new jobs over the next several years.

We also successfully pursued various initiatives to attract new industry to our area including the expansion of the Salisbury-Wicomico County Enterprise Zone, the creation of an Arts and Entertainment District and the establishment of a "business incubator" at the Salisbury/Ocean City: Wicomico County Regional Airport. This latter effort directly resulted in the "start-up" of Ameriscan, Inc., a technology-oriented company founded by a recent Salisbury University graduate. Ameriscan operates in the global positioning services industry.

Our organization is fortunate to receive community-wide support in our endeavors from both public and private sectors. A significant reason for such support lies within our staff. I'd like to extend a special appreciation to our staff for their commitment and professionalism. It has been my honor to serve as your President these past two years and though my term is ending, I remain committed to the organization and its goals.

Sincerely,

John M. Stern, Jr. President

Officers and Board of Directors

Mike Abercrombie Cato Gas & Oil, Inc.

John Allen Delmarva Power

Rafael Correa MaTech, Inc.

Eric Crouchley The Peninsula Insurance Co.

Dr. Gerard DiBartolo Salisbury Area Chamber

Palmer Gillis Gillis-Gilkerson, Inc.

Dawn Harcum Filtronic Comtek

Henry Hanna, III Long & Foster Commercial

Fred King BB&T

Craig McConnell Shore Bank

George Mengason Dennis Storage / Mayflower

Bob Moore Moore & Company, P.A. Greg Olinde Bay National Bank

John Pick City of Salisbury

Rick Pollitt City of Fruitland

Bill Rinnier Rinnier Development Corp.

Tony Sarbanes Wicomico County

Steve Smethurst Adkins, Potts & Smethurst

Ed Thomas The Bank of Delmarva

Ed Townsend M&T Bank

Roger Vandegrift Mercantile Peninsula Bank

Mark Welsh Trice, Geary & Myers

Bob Wheatley The Whayland Company

Tom Wisniewski Avery W. Hall Insurance Co. John Stern President Pigg, Krahl, Stern & Company

Pete Bozick Vice-President George, Miles & Buhr

Monty Sayler Secretary Bank of America

Scott Aja Treasurer McCrone, Inc.

Ed Urban Immediate Past President Harvard Custom Manufacturing Business Retention / Expansion

Business Attraction

Strengthen SWED

Our Strategy

In 1967, Chris-Craft Corporation announced its closing, eliminating hundreds of jobs in Wicomico County. Business and government leaders shortly thereafter created the Salisbury-Wicomico Economic Development Corporation in an effort to mitigate future plant closings while attracting new and diverse industries to our region. This activity reduces reliance on few companies or industries while providing new job opportunities for all citizens. Our focus is threefold:

1) Business Retention/Expansion:

Most businesses derive seventy to eighty percent of revenue from existing customers. As a correlation, most new jobs in any community originate from resident businesses. A strong business base also helps to attract new firms to a growing area.

2) Business Attraction:

New and diverse businesses mitigate adverse effects of economic downturns, reduce reliance on a few firms, increase the taxable base, and add jobs. Ancillary or indirect benefits are as great, if not greater, than direct benefits.

3) Strengthen SWED:

Since its establishment in 1968, SWED has received financial and professional support from public and private sectors. Both sectors demonstrate an interest in economic development and both sectors possess unique resources. A combined publicprivate effort maximizes resources, leverages capital, and broadens expertise.

Highlights of 38 Years

- SWED opens its corporate office and places its first ad in "Industrial Property Guide"
 - Firestone announces plans to build a plastics factory in Northwood Industrial Park
 - Salisbury "oversizes" water & sewer lines in Northwood Industrial Park to allow for future growth
 - Chris Craft closes its Salisbury plant
- 1970-1975 Crown, Cork & Seal expands its plant by 73,000 sq. ft.
 - A 3-phase Industrial Apartment concept is announced to provide "start-up" manufacturing space for new industry
 - K&L Microwave is founded by Richard Bernstein
 - Open Roads Industries purchases the former Chris Craft plant
 - New factories planned for construction include: Burroughs Corp., Georgia Pacific, Central Supply, Shaw Warehousing, & Hoffman LaRoche
 - Manhattan Shirt Co. is sold to Salisbury Manufacturing Co., Inc.
 - Open Roads Industries announces its closing

1975-1980 D&F Shirt and Wootten Welding begin operations

- Seven new companies move into the Industrial Apartment Complex, including Good Electronic Co., Salisbury Special Tool, & Maryland Clarklift, Inc.
- K&L Microwave triples its manufacturing space
- Roadway & AAA Trucking locate terminals in Salisbury
- Condec Corp. acquires the former Chris Craft plant for its ConDiesel division

"Business Week" publishes a feature article entitled "Business Discovers a Tri-State Peninsula", 1973.

Work begins on the establishment	Highlights (conti	nued)
of the 150 acre Air Business	1975-1980 I	 Duo Sofa, Inc. announces plans to construct a plant in Northwood
Center.		 Mid-Atlantic Printing & Chilton Publishing begin plant construction in Northwood
	:	 Gregg Shirt Makers expands its Fruitland plant
		 Delmar Sportswear locates in Delmar
		 Richard Bernstein, founder of K&L Microwave, wins Maryland's Small Businessman of the Year award
		 Henson Airlines locates to Wicomico County
	•	 SWED assists in site selection for Salisbury Pewter, Heinemann Electric, & Chesapeake Corporation
		 Chesapeake Shipbuilding purchases Roberts Shipyard & begins constructing the "America" cruise ship
		 Plymouth Tube begins construction on a specialty tubing plant in Northwood
		 Perdue Farms doubles its corporate head- quarters & expands its processing plant
		 Henson Airlines adds ninety new jobs & is recognized as the "Regional Airline of the Year" by Air-Transport World.
	•	 Viskon-Aire locates in Northwood
	-	 SWED partners with Wicomico County & the City of Salisbury to obtain Maryland's largest enterprise zone
		 Heinemann triples its manufacturing space
		 Governor Hughes announces a state office building to be built in downtown Salisbury
	•	 Grumman Aerospace purchases the former Manhattan Shirt factory, projecting 300 new manufacturing jobs
		 IPC Corporation announces the construction of two plants in Northwood
	•	 Enterprise zone benefits are extended from five years to ten years
	6	

Highlights (continued)

1985-1990	 Standard Register purchases Burroughs Corporation's business forms division Mardelva News begins plant construction in Northwood SWED received local & state approval for funds to construct an inventory building K&L Microwave, US Marine, & Coaxitube expand creating 250+ new jobs Federal Express constructs a plant at the new Air Business Center A new terminal building has been approved for funding at the airport Imperial Cup Corp. purchases Wicomico's
	 "inventory" building, creating 50 new jobs Ford Laboratories (Trinity Sterile today) completes construction of its facility on W. Zion Rd. Machining Technologies, Toroid Corporation, & CallCenter Services are welcomed to our area Foot Management opens a facility in Pittsville Tishcon Corp. completes its Northwood plant The Regional State Office Building is under construction in downtown Salisbury
	 SWED proposes a second inventory building
1990-1995	 US Marine builds its 1000th yacht MaTech doubles its workforce Northgate Development builds 66,000 sq ft of office/industrial/warehouse space CallCenter Services reaches 200 associates Eaton Corporation, formerly Heinemann Electric, employs 300 Nanticoke Homes purchases the former Con-Diesel plant Wicomico County begins construction of its second inventory building Campbell's Soup closes, eliminating nearly 800 positions Grumman Aerospace announces plans to close, eliminating over 500 jobs

Wicomico County constructs its second "inventory" building; 100,000 sq. ft., 1993.

SWED, in conjunction with Wicomico	Highlights (continued)		
County, UMES, & the EDA establishes a \$1 million revolving loan fund.	•	 Filtronic Comtek locates in the former terminal building at the airport 	
		 Field Container purchases Wicomico's second "inventory" building 	
		 Royal Quality Foods begins beef processing in the former Campbell's Soup plant 	
		 RelComm Technologies begins operations in Northwood 	
		 Data Services, Inc. & CallCenter Services construct facilities in Winterplace Park 	
		 Lorch Microwave relocates to Salisbury with 15 employees 	
		 Salisbury Technologies (now Harvard Custom Manufacturing) purchases the former Grum- man Aerospace plant, retaining 82 jobs 	
		 MaTech renovates a former sweet potato plant into a state-of-the-art machine shop in Hebron 	
		 The City of Fruitland establishes a 110 acre enterprise zone & begins planning a new industrial park 	
	1995-2000	 Filtronic Comtek moves into its new head- quarters, employing 150+ 	
		 Shoreland Freezers, Tishcon, & Trinity Labs commit millions of dollars for new warehouse & manufacturing space 	
		 Piedmont/US Air Express opens its new engine testing facility at the airport 	
		 Rafael Correa, President of MaTech, Inc., wins Maryland's Small Businessman of the Year award 	
	•	 ClearComm Technologies & Custom Cable Solutions begin operations in Wicomico 	
		Cane May Foods purchases Nanticoke Foods	

begin operations in Wicomico Cape May Foods purchases Nanticoke Foods, retaining 75 jobs

- Tishcon Corp. relocates a division to the former Sears Warehouse building on Brown St.
- ThermoLyte Corp. begins operations in the old terminal building at the airport

Highlights (continued)

1995-2000 continued

- SWED along with 8 other Maryland Eastern Shore counties produces a CD-ROM highlighting business attributes of the Eastern Shore
- Interactive Marketing Services, Inc. enters into a lease with Mountaire Farms for a portion of the former Campbell Soup plant
- Millenium Microwave, LLC begins operations in Fruitland
- Arcon Welding, LLC begins operations in Northwood
- Rail service is retained along Mill St. due to a partnership between SWED, City of Salisbury, Norfolk-Southern, MDOT, & rail users
- 2000-2005 K&L Microwave purchases & renovates the former Eaton facility
 - Lorch Microwave constructs an addition to its existing facility
 - Eastern Wireless TeleComm begins manufacturing microwave filters in Northwood
 - The former Chris Craft plant is sold for the fourth time in 33 years
 - Helvoet Pharma purchases Wheaton Pharma-Tech, retaining 200 jobs
 - Bar None, Inc. purchases the local assets of The Order People, retaining 150 jobs
 - Silverton Marine purchases the former Webcraft plant, creating 175 new jobs
 - SWED creates a "schematic/vision" for the Air Business Center in conjunction with the Airport Commission & several SWED members
 - Cambrex chooses Northwood for a bio-tech manufacturing facility
 - SWED establishes a new \$406,000 revolving loan fund for business development
 - SWED secures \$350,000 in funding (CDBG) for renovation of the former airport terminal building into a business incubator

The Kiplinger Washington Letter mentions that Salisbury is "drawing smaller, hightech businesses" in its February 20, 1998 edition.

Business Expansion	Highlights (co	ontinued)
Partnerships Technology	2000-2005 continued	 SWED assists Silverton Marine in securing the former "Hess" site for a new manufacturing plant expected to employ approximately 200 people Germane Tool, a precision machine shop, relocates to Salisbury from West Chester, PA SWED assists Filter Networks in its site search and other "start-up" issues SWED initiates and promotes a "Technology Partnering Showcase" in conjunction with TEDCO at Salisbury University Through the Maryland Economic Adjustment Fund, SWED capitalizes an additional \$100,000 to the SWED Business Expansion Fund SWED assists Century Seals in the firm's acquisition of Finishing Technologies, Inc. SWED was instrumental in assisting Sklar Instruments in its merger with Trinity Labs, creating Trinity Sterile and retaining 55 jobs SWED assists in the start-up of Callidus, LLC,
	2005-2006	 a developer of software products targeting the sleep lab industry SWED assists MaTech, Inc. in its site search, permitting, and expansion into a 150,00 square foot facility in Northwood SWED assists Perdue Farms, Inc. in locating a site for a new corporate hangar, developing lease terms, and assisting throughout the permitting process SWED accepts a lead role in working with developers of the Salisbury Mall property toward a Tax Increment Finance agreement Perdue Farms renovates a manufacturing plant in Northwood into an "Innovation Center," a state-of-the-art research and development facility SWED supports House Bill 399, allowing more flexibility to local jurisdictions in creating and expanding enterprise zones

Highlights (continued)

2005-2006 continued

- SWED assists Harvard Custom Manufacturing with financing from the Southern Eastern Shore Revolving Loan Fund (SES-RLF) to expand its facility and increase jobs
- As requested by the Wicomico County Council, SWED reviewed and presented a request toward the establishment of an Arts and Entertainment District
- SWED assists the Airport Commission in establishing a business incubator in the former terminal building at the airport and in securing funds through the Community Development Block Grant program, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Maryland Aviation Administration
- SWED assists Ameriscan, a GPS company, in locating to the recently renovated incubator space at the airport, and with permitting and leasing issues as well
- SWED assists the City of Salisbury and Wicomico County in promoting and completing the application to expand the existing enterprise zone to include WestWood Commerce Park
- SWED sponsored and arranged a presentation from the Maryland Industrial Development Financing Authority (MIDFA) to area bankers and loan officers

Salisbury is ranked 55th Hottest City in the US, according to the May 2006 issue of Inc. Magazine.



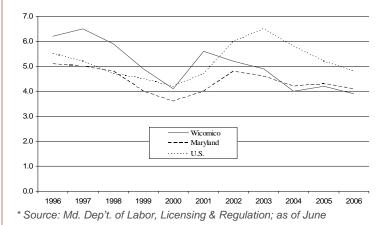
David Ryan Executive Director

Director's Message

For the thirty-eighth consecutive year, SWED worked to enhance our local economy by facilitating in the creation and preservation of productive employment opportunities, nurturing a diverse economic base and strengthening our organization. Our efforts are enhanced thanks to the confidence employers demonstrate in our community and to our many partnerships which allow our initiatives to succeed.

For most of this past year, we operated in an environment characterized by relatively low interest rates, moderate inflation, and continued (albeit more tempered than in previous years) demand for residential, commercial and industrial real estate.

Unemployment in Wicomico remained low as illustrated in the following chart.



10 Year Unemployment Rate Trend

Having a rate above the state and the nation for the latter part of the previous decade, Wicomico's rate has dropped dramatically in recent years to well below the national rate and on par with the state rate. The reason is due to an increase in jobs. From 2002 through 2005, Wicomico's labor force and job count grew by 3.9% and 9.3%, respectively. This resulted in a tighter labor market for most of the year which is generally good for those seeking jobs though more challenging for employers seeking qualified applicants.

Director's Message (continued)

Most businesses derive a significant amount of their revenue from existing and previous customers. As a correlation, most new jobs in any community are generated by existing businesses. SWED remains committed to assisting resident businesses in their viability and success.

This past year, we were pleased to play a role in the expansion of Machining Technologies as the company nears completion in the renovation of the former 150,000 square foot Sealy plant into a state of the art, high-tech precision machine facility. MaTech anticipates adding nearly one hundred new associates to its current team. Likewise, Harvard Custom Manufacturing is embarking on the construction of an additional 60,000 square feet to its existing plant to accommodate a projected one hundred fifty new jobs next year. In addition, we were pleased to assist Shore Distributors, Callidus, Life Shield Engineered Systems, Silverton Marine, Plymouth Tube, Toroid, and many others in areas ranging from enterprise zone certification to financing.

Also in regard to existing businesses, SWED sponsored a luncheon with area bankers and the Director and staff of the Maryland Industrial Development Financing Authority (MIDFA) to better acquaint local loan officers with State programs. Five local companies participated in Maryland's Partnership for Workforce Quality program and received more than \$60,000 toward training initiatives.

The attraction of new companies, industries and investments also needs to be a part of our effort as we recognize economic forces can overwhelm even the best of intentions and that attrition will occur in any economy. Recruiting new employers and creating an environment that supports new companies and industries is integral in our long term goals and diversification strategies.

Beginning last year and successfully accomplishing this year, SWED was pleased to assist the City of Salisbury and Wicomico County in the expansion of the Salisbury: Wicomico County Enterprise Zone. This expansion includes the two hundred sixtyfive acre Westwood Commerce Park which offers industrially zoned land for future growth. Within Westwood, Ferguson Enterprises has chosen our community to consolidate four Coordinated Efforts

Proactive

Creative

Director's Message (continued)

Economic Diversification

Job Retention

divisions, construct several facilities and create approximately one hundred new jobs. Ferguson is a large distributor of plumbing, heating and building supplies.

Job Attraction

During this fiscal year, a long term goal of SWED came to fruition with the renovation of the former Airport Terminal Building into a small business incubator. Spearheaded by SWED with strong support from the Wicomico County Council, the Wicomico County Airport Commission, Maryland's Department of Business and



Local officials dedicate the former Airport Terminal Building as a Business Incubator

Economic Development, The Maryland and Federal Aviation Administration and many others, the nearly 9,000 square foot facility is now home to the FAA and Ameriscan, a start-up technology firm founded by a recent Salisbury University graduate.

Internally, we completely redesigned our web site and maintained our goal of updating the site on a

daily basis. In addition, we responded to hundreds of requests for information from citizens, businesses, students, consultants, brokers and many others. More than two hundred twenty members and guests attended our membership meetings featuring Aris Melissaratos and Gary Stockbridge, Secretary and President of Maryland's Department of Business and Economic Development and Delmarva Power, respectively.

From a fiscal perspective, we remained prudent in our expenditures and operated within our budget. For the five years ending August 31, 2006, our budget has increased by 2.9%, or put another way, approximately .6% per year.

While it's difficult to predict with accuracy the types of jobs and industries that will encompass our area in the years ahead, with hard work, teamwork and commitment to cause, our achievements in the years to come will be meaningful and of value to our community.

Recent Programs

The Poultry Industry Jim Perdue – Chairman, Perdue Farms, Inc.

Moving Maryland Forward James T. Brady – Secretary, Maryland DBED

The State of the State Governor Paris Glendening – State of Maryland

Looking Ahead: The Wireless Industry Lou Abbagnaro – President, K&L Microwave

Why Jobs Come and Go A.B. (Buzzy) Krongard – Director, BT Alex Brown, Inc.

Marketing Maryland

Aris Melissaratos – Secretary, Maryland DBED

The Current & Future Impact of the Microwave Industry on the Lower Shore

Charles Schaub – President, K&L Microwave John Tinkler – President, RelComm Technologies David Chambers – President, Filtronic Comtek Kevin Bernstein – President, Lorch Microwave Wayne Barbely – President, Salisbury Engineering Jeff Evans – President, ClearComm Technologies

Healthcare & PRMC

Alan Newberry – President & CEO, Peninsula Regional Medical Center

Business Taxes in Maryland

William Donald Schaefer - Comptroller, State of Maryland

What to Expect Next

Kevin Hassett – Senior Economist, Board of Governors Federal Reserve System; Author, <u>Dow 36,000</u>

Research Triangle Park, NC

James Roberson – President, Research Triangle Foundation

The State of the County

Anthony Sarbanes – President, Wicomico County Council

Energy Costs and Electricity Supply

Gary Stockbridge - President, Delmarva Power

Quality Meetings

Expert Speakers

Relevant Issues

Mission Statement

Enhance the socio-economic environment of Salisbury, Wicomico County and region through the preservation and creation of productive employment opportunities.

Past Presidents

1968 – 1969 Robert M. Lawrence

1969 – 1970 Robert A. Deacon

> 1970 – 1971 A.L. Fleming

1971 – 1972 Frank P. Maher

1972 – 1973 H. Gray Reeves, M.D.

1973 – 1974 William J. Ahtes, Jr.

1974 – 1975 W. Howard Hayman

1975 – 1976 Robert M. Lawrence

1976 – 1977 William C. Bicknell

1977 – 1978 W. Thomas Hershey

> 1978 – 1979 Daniel E. Ulm

1979 – 1980 William G. Carey

1980 – 1981 John Lerch 1981 – 1983 Fulton Jeffers

1983 – 1984 William J. Ahtes, Jr.

1984 – 1986 Gordon D. Gladden

1986 - 1988 Edward J. Kremer

1988 – 1990 Hugh McLaughlin

> 1990 – 1992 W. Bill Rinnier

1992 – 1994 Robert C. Wheatley

1994 – 1996 Roger Vandegrift

1996 – 1998 Edward M. Thomas

> 1998 – 2000 Rafael Correa

2000 – 2002 Henry H. Hanna, III

> 2002 – 2004 Edward Urban

SWED Members



Accountants

Moore & Company, P.A. Bob Moore

PKS & Company, P.A. John Stern, Jr.

Trice, Geary & Myers, LLC Mark Welsh

Attorneys

Adkins, Potts & Smethurst Steve Smethurst

Webb, Burnett, Cornbrooks, Wilber, Vorhis, Douse & Mason, LLP *K. King Burnett*

Banks

Bank of America Monty Sayler

Bay National Bank Greg Olinde

BB&T Fred King

First Shore Federal S&L Marty Neat

Hebron Savings Bank Greg Johnson

M&T Bank Ed Townsend

Mercantile Peninsula Bank Roger Vandegrift

Shore Bank Craig McConnell

The Bank of Delmarva Ed Thomas

Construction

Concrete Building Systems Viren Sharma

Gillis-Gilkerson, Inc. Palmer Gillis

Nason Construction, Inc. *Mike Dashiell*

Rinnier Development Corporation *Bill Rinnier*

The Whayland Company Bob Wheatley

Engineers / Architects

Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. Adam V. Yuhas

Davis, Bowen & Friedel Jerry Friedel

George, Miles & Buhr, LLP Peter Bozick

McCrone, Inc. Scott Aja

Government / Chamber

City of Fruitland Rick Pollitt

City of Salisbury John Pick

Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce Dr. Gerard DiBartolo

Town of Delmar Sara Bynum-King

Wicomico County Tony Sarbanes



SWED Members (continued)

Insurance

Avery Hall Insurance Group Tom Wisniewski

Hanna, Kremer, & Tilghman *Mat Tilghman, Jr.*

The Peninsula Insurance Company Eric Crouchley

Tri-State General Insurance Ed Dickerson

Manufacturing

Delmarva Recycling Greg Stein

Filtronic Comtek Dawn Harcum

Harvard Custom Manufacturing Ed Urban

K&L Microwave Don Hoeler

Lorch Microwave Kevin Bernstein

Lower Shore Enterprises Mike Purkey

MaTech, Inc. Rafael Correa

Oddi Atlantic Hastings Brian Twilley

Pepsi Bottling Ventures of Delmarva Bill Flaherty Plymouth Tube Joey Clardy

RelComm Technologies John Tinkler

Spartech Polycom Otto Peters

Standard Register Tom Sturwold

Tishcon Corporation Arun Chopra

Toroid Corporation Gunnar Ennerfelt

Real Estate/Development

E.S. Adkins & Company Bill Turner

H & R Pepsi, LLC Morgan Hazel

HTL, Inc. Henry Hanna, III

Long & Foster Commercial John McClellan, Chris Peek

Miller Commercial Real Estate Brent Miller

Mr. Square Feet Mark McIver

PCS Homes Michael Thomasson

Retail

Centre at Salisbury Alane Emerson

SWED Members (continued)

Services

Utilities

Beacon Technologies Dana Seiler

Data Services, Inc. Kathy Geary

Go-Glass Corporation Doug Linderer

Navtrak, Inc. Ron Hodges

Peninsula Regional Medical Center Alan Newberry

Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University Dr. William Moore

Quality Staffing Services Maria Waller

Salisbury University Foundation Rosemary Thomas Cato Gas & Oil, Inc. Mike Abercrombie

Chesapeake Utilities Corp. *Jim Schneider*

Delmarva Oil Brian Schneck

Delmarva Power John Allen

Eastern Shore Natural Gas Elaine Bittner

Verizon Joe Daniels

Wholesale / Distribution

Dennis Storage / Mayflower George Mengason

Eastern Shore Distributing Robert Burke

Shore Distributors Jim Morris

Shoreland, Inc. Art Cooley



Thank you for

supporting our program

of economic development

for the past thirty-eight years.