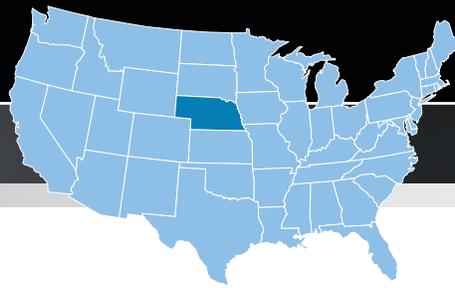


Nebraska Overview

Economic Development

Economic News from
Nebraska Public Power District

Fall 2015



Xpanxion will be First Tenant at Tech oNE Crossing

Xpanxion, a global software development company, will be moving both of its Kearney offices to the Tech oNE Crossing Tech Park in northeast Kearney.

The company entered into an agreement with the City of Kearney and the Economic Development Council of Buffalo County to continue to grow Kearney's technology sector. In the agreement, Xpanxion will construct a 20,000-square-foot client briefing center in Tech oNE Crossing Tech Park, maintain its current baseline of approximately 90 employees, and create 29 full-time information technology positions over a 36-month period. In return the Economic Development Council of Buffalo County is providing 10 acres of land at no cost, the City of Kearney will install approximately \$600,000 of infrastructure, and by second agreement, Xpanxion will receive \$500,000 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development Sites and Building Development Funds. The project will cost an estimated \$3 million and is expected to relocate to the tech park by October 1, 2016.

Paul Eurek, Xpanxion founder and President, said, **"We've been very proud of the people we've been able to hire in Kearney and the work we've been able to do nationwide. Having a state-of-the-art facility will make a big difference to the potential clients that we bring to Kearney."**

Headquartered in Atlanta, Xpanxion performs software development testing and business intelligence. Clients have included Sony Entertainment, InterContinental Hotels Group, Honda Motor Co., and The Weather Channel. Xpanxion was acquired by UST Global in April 2014.

"Xpanxion and UST Global are top-notch companies, and we are fortunate to have them in Kearney," said Darren Robinson, Economic Development Council President. **"When the City Council took the initiative to invest in technology, they really committed to providing job diversity and opportunities not commonly found in rural Nebraska."**



The 165-acre tech park is located four miles to Interstate 80, two miles to US Highway 30 (four-lane), and two miles to the Kearney Regional Airport.

The Tech oNE Crossing Tech Park is served electrically by Nebraska Public Power District.

Nebraska to be Featured in United's November Dossier

If you're flying United Airlines in November, be sure to pick up a copy of the airline's in-flight Dossier magazine's 40-page section on Nebraska. Expected to be part of this special section are features on numerous aspects of Nebraska, including the fact that Nebraska is an all public power state providing low-cost, reliable, and sustainable electricity to homes, businesses, and industry. Nebraska Public Power District CEO and President Pat Pope was interviewed on public power for the publication expected to be in seat pockets of the airlines on November 1, and potentially be in front of nearly 3.1 million flyers.

EXPANSIONS



York Cold Storage Expands

York Cold Storage I, LLC, will be expanding their engine room along with other areas of their plant at an estimated cost of more than \$2 million.

York Cold Storage is a cold food storage warehouse facility and a food processing facility in York, Nebraska. The company, ideally located on Interstate 80 and US Highway 81, stores product for customers from across the United States. York Cold Storage also ships overseas.

The City of York received a \$267,955 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to loan the company. The project will create 10 full-time jobs in addition to maintaining their current staff of 65 employees.

Besides the CDBG funding, an additional \$2 million is being loaned from U.S. Bank. The funding will be used to purchase and install new equipment, and update its cold storage facility. This project will also qualify for over \$57,000 in energy efficiency incentives through Nebraska Public Power District's EnergyWise program. The project is expected to be completed in approximately two years.

Matt Spanjers, General Manager, said, **"We wouldn't be able to accomplish this project without the assistance of Nebraska Department of Economic Development, York County Development Corporation, Southeast Nebraska Development District, the City of York, as well as Nebraska Public Power District. They have been great partners to work with and have really helped guide us through the process."**

"In addition, job creation is really what business is all about. We are very serious about growing not only our business, but the community as well, and this would not be possible without the backing of the good folks that I mentioned above," said Spanjers.

Lisa Hurley, Executive Director York County Development Corporation, said, **"York Cold Storage first formed in the 1940s. Over the last couple of decades, there have been many expansions which continue to impact the York County area. We are grateful to see the company continue to invest in York."**

The company is served electrically by Nebraska Public Power District.



Expands in Beatrice

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in August for another expansion for Neapco Components in Beatrice, Nebraska. Those in attendance included Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts; President and CEO Ken Hopkins, Neapco Holdings, LLC, from the greater Detroit area; Vice President and General Manager J.C. Stiles, Neapco Components in Beatrice; President Keith Sanford, Neapco Components; and Director Brenda Hicks-Sorensen, CECD, Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

Gov. Ricketts congratulated Neapco for 34 years of solid, dependable service and manufacturing high in-demand products.

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development awarded the City of Beatrice \$300,000 from its Site and Building Development Fund for the project.

"We are encouraged by the continued investment by the city and state in the support of Neapco's growth in Beatrice," said Stiles. **"We consider this to be a positive environment with benefits for Neapco and the community."**

Neapco invested \$1.6 million in the renovation and construction of approximately 13,200 square feet for a test lab and to consolidate five offices into one, housing 65 employees. A previous expansion in 2011 involved a 100,000-square-foot building to its campus at the Beatrice Industrial Park.

The company designs, manufactures, and distributes driveline products and components.

Neapco Components is served electrically by the City of Beatrice, a wholesale customer of Nebraska Public Power District.

Cambridge, Nebraska...Life is Good!

Cambridge is a rural community located on historic U.S. Route 6 and 34 in southwest Nebraska, just four hours either way to Denver and Omaha. Interstate 80, traversing the entire U.S., is approximately 60 miles north of Cambridge.

After nearly two decades of efforts to sustain and grow this small community of about 1,100 residents, Cambridge Economic Development has proven that success starts at the grassroots level. It started when nine visionary local volunteer leaders recognized the need to embrace a new generation of pioneering entrepreneurs was essential.

The misconception of rural Nebraska communities dying couldn't be further from the truth. This dynamic rural setting in Cambridge is alive and thriving. **"The business climate is strong showing steady growth and we have a full downtown. If you are looking for the perfect place to start a new business, Cambridge is it,"** said economic development board member Leah tenBensel.

Pinpoint Communications and their affiliated companies Cambridge Telephone and BLAZE Wireless, located in Cambridge, are the leader in communication solutions in the southwest Nebraska area. Pinpoint has acquired the only access point into this fiber optic line between Omaha and Denver. Services include internet, video, wireless, and phone and they are all backed with 100 percent local support. Pinpoint employs 28 people in Cambridge.

Tri Valley Health System began more than 50 years ago with the opening of Cambridge Memorial Hospital. Now after several expansions, with the most recent in 2010 at \$21 million, Tri Valley Health System is home to an all-electric, state-of-the-art facility. Tri Valley is the largest employer in Cambridge with 164 employees. The campus includes the hospital, medical clinic, wellness and rehab center, retirement living, assisted living, long-term care facility, and a diagnostic sleep center.

Nebraska Corn Processing, LLC, located in Cambridge, is capable of processing 16 million bushels of corn per year, producing 44 million gallons of ethanol, and 400,000 tons of wet distillers grains with solubles. Nebraska Corn Processing (NCP) is made up of four divisions—corn, wet cake, freight, and ethanol. NCP employs 34 people in Cambridge.

NCP opened their first convenience store. **Anew Travel Center**, open 24/7, offers access to ethanol fuels and biodiesel blends.

Earlier this year Cambridge earned the designation of a *Certified Leadership Community* through the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NEDED). NEDED created this program for the purpose of helping smaller Nebraska communities deal head-on with challenges and change. Communities are evaluated on community involvement, strategic planning, community planning and zoning, business and technology development, and incentives and implementation.



Other progressive achievements for the city of Cambridge include:

- The city's Economic Development program and Twin Valleys Public Power District both oversee **Revolving Loan Funds** to encourage business development. Currently low-interest loans have been made to eight local businesses.
- Economic Development also operates an **Internship Program**, offering \$1,000 grants to local businesses as an incentive to hire interns. To date, eight businesses have taken advantage of the program.
- **77-acre Harvest Meadows Subdivision**; offering free lots with poured streets and sewer, water, and electric ready to go. This subdivision is already home to two new businesses and seven new homes.
- The **Down Payment Assistance Program** has made seven low-interest loans to individuals and families to purchase or build homes in Cambridge.
- Cambridge Economic Development hosted the annual **College and Career Fair** – Last year's event featured 20 businesses and colleges and attracted 140 students from area high schools.

Cambridge offers excellent recreation—McKinley Park is a perfect setting for the young with ball diamonds, swimming pool, and a splash pad. An 18-hole golf course is located at Cross Creek. The rural community is ideally located between the scenic Republican River and Medicine Creek and just nine miles from the dramatic views and recreational opportunities in and around Harry Strunk Lake and the Medicine Creek State Park.

"Twin Valleys Public Power District is the primary wholesale power supplier for the City of Cambridge and we are proud to be headquartered in this progressive community for over 71 years," said Jim Dietz, General Manager.

Twin Valleys Public Power District is a wholesale customer of Nebraska Public Power District.

- **West Point Dairy** located in West Point, Nebraska, has been ramping up production since spring. More silos have been added to increase the capacity for milk, cream, and buttermilk. The intake volume is approximately 5,000 head of dairy cows daily. The expansion will create 10–15 skilled labor positions. West Point Dairy currently has 115 employees. West Point Dairy is owned by Grassland Dairy Products, Inc., Greenwood, WI, one of the nation's leading butter producers.

- The **City of Lexington** received the *Community of the Year* award and **Nucor, Norfolk**, was one of two recipients to receive the *Business of the Year* award. These awards were presented at the Nebraska Diplomats Passport Weekend in September. The Nebraska Diplomats Inc. is made up of 286 business executives and community leaders.

- **Nebraska Public Power District** received *Honorable Mention* by Site Selection's 2015 Top Utilities in Economic Development.



www.fabtechexpo.com

Nebraska Public Power District, in partnership with the Lincoln Area Partnership for Economic Development, will be hosting a booth at the FABTECH tradeshow in Chicago, November 9–12. More than 40,000 attendees and over 1,500 exhibiting companies are expected to gather once again celebrating metal manufacturing at its best. The event also provides learning opportunities beyond the show floor with more than 100 educational sessions and expert-led presentations covering the latest trends and technology in the metal forming, fabricating, welding and finishing industries.

Visit with Nebraska representatives at **Booth S2254**.



Nebraska Public Power District
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