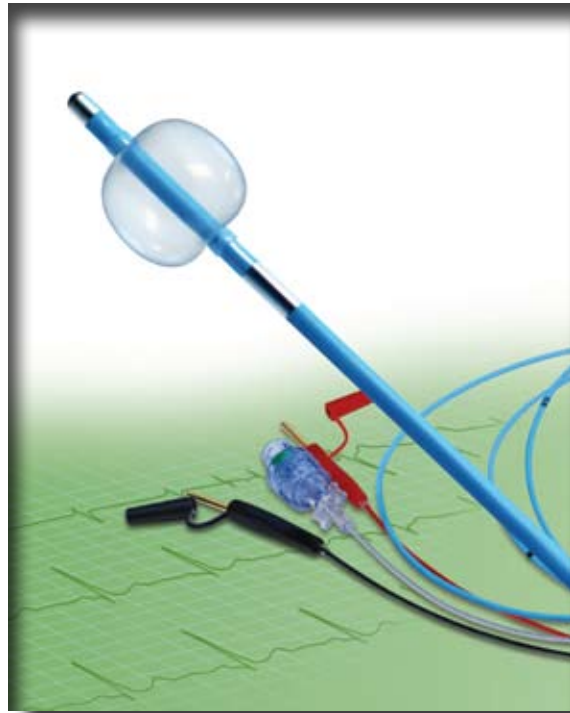


Oscor Expansion Brings 70 New Jobs



A recently announced expansion plan for **Oscor, Inc.** will bring 70 new high-wage jobs to **Palm Harbor** in unincorporated **Pinellas County**, Florida. Oscor has been expanding its research and development efforts, developing innovative technologies steadily over the past three years, indicating the fortitude of the company and the strength of the community in which it resides. "Coupled with its existing business unit known as Oscor Caribe, the company gave serious consideration to Minneapolis for this project," explains Danielle Ruiz, Business Development Manager for Pinellas County Economic Development (PCED). "That Pinellas County came out on top speaks to both the positive impact of Florida's incentive programs and the appeal of the area to high-tech industry."

Thomas Osypka, President and CEO of Oscor, agrees: "Pinellas has been a great fit for our business. In the best interest of our company, we had to explore other options and there are some strong competitors out there. But PCED worked with us to find the right incentive for this project, and it made all the difference." Oscor will take advantage of **Florida's Qualified Target Industry (QTI)** program to help offset the costs associated with its expansion and bring these high-wage, high-skill jobs to Pinellas County. In partnership with the **Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED)**, **Enterprise Florida**, and Pinellas County, the QTI program allows new and expanding Florida businesses in targeted,

high-growth industries that create new, high-paying jobs to receive tax refunds for every new job created. Says Osypka, "By utilizing the QTI program, we can add the positions and space necessary for our new product lines."

Oscor designs, develops, manufactures and markets a variety of highly specialized implantable cardiac pacing leads, venous access systems and diagnostic catheters, selling its products in more than 35 countries. The company plans to both expand operations and conduct research for new medical devices, including the Angios Catheters, Adelante Introducers Series, and a new line of interventional coronary and peripheral vascular diagnostic catheters and introducer sheaths. "These technological advancements require a highly-skilled workforce and the right facilities," explains Ruiz. "We have both here in Pinellas." In addition to a talented workforce, Oscor also found in Pinellas a redevelopment opportunity that will ultimately provide the company with the perfect space for its new venture. "The location we selected is ideal for a retrofit," attests Osypka. "Rather than building from scratch, we're able to adapt an existing structure to fit our unique needs, decreasing our costs considerably." The 50,000-square-foot building also includes a large tract of land, which Oscor hopes to use for further expansion in the future.

Between the 70 new high-wage jobs planned and the redevelopment of an underutilized facility, Oscor, Inc.'s expansion project is certain to be a boon to the local economy. "Projects like this are truly beneficial to our area," explains Ruiz. "The additional jobs and technology Pinellas gains by keeping Oscor here can only continue to strengthen our dynamic **medical technologies industry sector**. We use every tool available in our retention efforts; the combination of creating jobs while revitalizing antiquated structures resulted in a decisive win for Pinellas County, and for Oscor."

Learn more about Oscor, Inc. at www.oscor.com.

Is your business ready to grow? Learn how Pinellas County can help by calling (727) 464-7332.

