



### **NEW HAMPSHIRE-BASED INNOVATIVE VACUUM EXPANDING IN TAMPA**

**TAMPA, FL** — Innovative Vacuum Solutions (IVS), a New Hampshire-based company that specializes in high vacuum pump technology, will expand in Tampa next month, opening a service center that will create 10 new jobs.

Innovative Vacuum Solutions repairs and remanufactures industrial vacuum pumps made by more than 30 manufacturers. The pumps work in critical manufacturing processes in 92 industries, including the chemical, semiconductor, pharmaceutical, food packaging, optics, advanced telecommunications, electronics, mass spectrometer, heat treating, compact disc and thin film coating, and solar energy sectors.

Innovative Vacuum President Michael Metropolis, who co-founded the company with his wife Michele Metropolis in 1996, says the company serves about 1,800 clients throughout the world. "We are the largest third-party vacuum pump rebuilder in the world," Michael Metropolis says.

He estimates that Innovative Vacuum will post sales of \$3 million in fiscal 2010, and that the new Tampa service center will generate an additional \$1 million in sales in 2011. The company employs 20 people at its Pelham, New Hampshire corporate headquarters/service center and Easton, Pennsylvania service center.

Innovative Vacuum is scheduled to take possession December 1, 2010 of 6,000 square feet being built out in the New Tampa Commerce Center at U.S. 301 and Fowler Avenue. Jeff Bardin and Ross Kirk with CLW Industrial Group brokered the deal.

"We decided on Tampa due to the proximity of our customer base and well as personal lifestyle reasons," Metropolis says. "We're close to the international airport. We receive a lot of equipment by air express services. Our clients are excited that we are opening a third location in the South."

While the corporate headquarters will remain in New Hampshire, the Metropolis' are moving to Florida permanently. "We love the diversity of the city," says Michele Metropolis, Innovative Vacuum's chief operating officer. "It's a bustling city. When we meet people, they're so friendly. And Tampa is nice and close to the Gulf. We love the ocean and the heat."

The Metropolis' will begin interviewing potential new employees in January. One New Hampshire-based employee will transfer to the Florida center to become production manager. The Metropolis' say they will hire five technicians, two people in sales and three administrative personnel. Additionally, the company wants to build relationships with local suppliers.

Innovative Vacuum recently signed an OEM service center contract with the Swiss manufacturing giant Oerlikon. Much of that service work will flow through the Tampa center, Metropolis says.

The company's decision was announced Friday at Tampa Hillsborough EDC's Inaugural Annual Meeting. According to outgoing Tampa Hillsborough EDC Chair Mark House and managing director, The Beck Group, "Innovative Vacuum's expansion will bring jobs and capital investment to the Hillsborough County economy. It was a collaborative effort. The Tampa Bay Partnership originated the lead regarding Innovative Vacuum's potential Florida expansion and Tampa Hillsborough EDC worked through the details to ensure success."

#### **About Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation**

The Tampa Hillsborough EDC is officially recognized by Enterprise Florida as Hillsborough County's primary business recruitment and retention economic development team in partnership with Hillsborough County and the cities of Tampa, Plant City, Temple Terrace and private investors. Its primary mission is to create jobs that pay above average wages and to broaden the tax base by generating new, sustainable capital investment. [TampaEDC.com](http://TampaEDC.com)

#### **About Innovative Vacuum Solutions**

Innovative Vacuum Solutions is a resourceful, vacuum pump maintenance firm and vacuum pump rebuilder, actively servicing a variety of industries in the implementation and care of their industrial vacuum pump systems. IVS specializes in high vacuum technology, vacuum pump repair, and vacuum pump rebuilding services. [ivsonline.com](http://ivsonline.com)

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