

# THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE

## Upcoming Events in Kosciusko County

**Take advantage of free one-on-one business assistance** provided in Warsaw by the South Bend Small Business Development Center and Kosciusko Development Inc. Wednesday, March 4. Call 267-6311 to schedule a one hour counseling session.

### Interesting Links

**TECH Fund Grant** to assist companies with training.

[www.in.gov/iedc/TECH.htm](http://www.in.gov/iedc/TECH.htm)

## President's Point of View Joy McCarthy-Sessing CEcD

Senate Bill 448 is now being considered in the Indiana General Assembly. This is a key piece of economic development legislation.

The bill removes personal property taxes from information technology (IT) equipment. Industry sectors such as data centers, life sciences, photonics and more look to invest in states that exempt IT equipment from personal property taxes.

Local approval would be required for any personal property tax exemption under this proposed legislation.

Typically the companies that invest heavily in IT equipment offer family-wage jobs exceeding \$50,000 per year.

Please contact me if you are interested in more details.

## WHIMET INC.

This family-owned company, which provides metal finishing services to orthopaedic and surgical equipment manufacturers, will invest more than \$1.2 million to continue adding automated lines to its 93,000 square-foot facility in Warsaw. Founded nearly 40 years ago, by Murvel Whitehead, Whimet currently employs more than 70 at its Warsaw location and plans to begin hiring additional entry-level associates and supervisory staff as the new lines become operational.

Whimet received a \$54,400 grant from the state's **Skills Enhancement Fund** to train its employees in production methods, product inspection and quality training needed for the company's ISO 9001:2000 certification. On the job training will provide the employees with increased skills that will further their careers. For more info (574) 267-8062

**Technical Assistance Program Manufacturing Extension Partnership**  
Purdue University  
Technical & Business Resources for Manufacturers  
**Phone: (317) 275-6811**  
[www.purduemep.com](http://www.purduemep.com)

## Skills Enhancement Fund

The **Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF)** provides financial assistance to businesses committed to training their workforce. Trainees must be Indiana residents. SEF reimburses eligible training expenses over a two-year term. Companies may reapply for additional SEF funds after their initial two-year term. IEDC typically does not provide reimbursement for training that is required by law. [www.in.gov/iedc/WorkforceTraining.htm](http://www.in.gov/iedc/WorkforceTraining.htm)

## KDI Loan Program

- The business must be located in Kosciusko County.
- 25 employees or less.
- Annual gross revenue of \$2 million or less.
- Business must maintain or create new jobs.

**Use of Funds:** Acquisition of land, buildings equipment and other fixed assets. Construction, expansion or remodeling of buildings. Purchase of equipment or machinery, research & development. For info contact Kim Nance at 574/267-6311.

## Applied Thermal Technologies, Inc.

**Applied Thermal Technologies Inc.** is a NADCAP accredited metal processing company specializing in vacuum heat treating, ceramic brazing, bright annealing, and brazing of aerospace and medical device stainless steel, titanium, nickel and other exotic alloys. It was created in 1992 to service the medical and aerospace industries with vacuum heat treating services.

In 2009, the company applied for and received tax abatement from Kosciusko County on their expansion. They currently have 34 employees. [www.appliedthermaltechnologies.com](http://www.appliedthermaltechnologies.com)

**New Site to Boost Small Business Development**—the Indiana BizCafe Website [www.indianabizcafe.com](http://www.indianabizcafe.com) provides a forum for users to connect with experts, identify investors, locate new clients and find new investment opportunities.

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