

From: [Utah Talks](#)
To: [Brian Raymond](#)
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Investing In Utah's Workforce

Utah's IT industry gains a new company. Indus Valley Partners (IVP), a provider of portfolio management technology for alternative asset managers, is slated to open an office in Utah that will create 200 new high-paying jobs. The state, through the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), and IVP have entered into an 11-year agreement during which the company will pay out more than \$91.9 million in new state wages. Click [here](#) for more information.



Broadband Project Tech Summit

The Utah Broadband Project is hosting its Broadband Summit on October 24 at the Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo. The Summit will focus on helping economic developers, government officials, business leaders, educators, and other stakeholders learn strategies to improve broadband access and technology usage. The conference is free for the public. Click [here](#) for more information.



Utah Brings Home The Bacon

Nature Food Products (NFP) will open a new Utah-based facility that will create at least 200 new jobs. Throughout the 10-year life of the agreement with the state, the company expects to pay more than \$90 million in new state wages. During that time, NFP will pay approximately \$6 million in new state taxes and will invest more than \$20 million in initial capital expansion. Click [here](#) for more information.

Improving Education, Improving Business

The School Improvement Network has entered an agreement with the state, and will undergo a major expansion of its Salt Lake City offices and create more than 700 new Utah jobs over the next decade. Over the 10-year life of the agreement with the state, the company will pay out more than \$5.9 million in new state wages. During the life of the agreement, School Improvement Network will invest more than \$10 million in capital expansion. It will also continue to host its annual education conference in Salt Lake City, which draws in around \$1 million in travel and tourism during the two-day conference. Click [here](#) for more information.



Tooele Jr. High Receives 74 Desktop Computers

Under the auspices of the Stem Action Center, IM Flash Technologies donated 74 desktop computers to Tooele Junior High School. The computers will enable students in the Mathematics Instruction Technology pilot, which is rolling out to 70 schools statewide.

Utah Delegation Attends China Trade Mission

Representatives from the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development attended a trade mission in China this month. The focus of the trade mission was helping Utah companies find business partners in China, presenting to local investors why Utah is

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the place for strategic investment and collaboration, and showcasing the rich beauty of Utah, which is a big draw for Chinese tourists. The delegation was comprised of leaders from Utah companies such as Chums, Ferox, MRI, ICON Fitness, Racers Edge, Stoel Rives, U.S. Translation company and the center for High School Global Alliances and Selnate International School. For more information, click [here](#).

UVU Receives Grant To Recruit Women To Math And Science

Utah Valley University has been selected to receive a grant to increase female performance and participation in STEM fields as part of a statewide initiative. The grant includes a three-year funded research project to analyze why women at UVU are not as involved in STEM as men. The goal is to help students, kindergarten to college, feel supported in exploring any type of education, including those related to STEM fields. Click [here](#) for more information.



Unmanned Aerial Systems Could Be Tested In Utah

The federal government is looking for six test sites for the development of unmanned aerial systems for use by industry, government and service agencies, and Utah is campaigning to be one of those sites. Spearheaded by GOED, the Mountain West Unmanned Systems Alliance has proposed four potential test sites to the Federal Aviation Administration, near Promontory, Green River, Delta and Milford. Click [here](#) for more information.



Utah's Life Science Industry Vibrant

Utah's life sciences industry is vibrant, boasting more than 26,800 employees and making the state a leader for life science businesses per capita. Across the four major subsectors (medical devices and equipment, drugs and pharmaceuticals, research, testing and medical labs, and biomedical distribution), Utah has at least a 20 percent higher level of industry concentration than is found nationally for those subsectors. Additionally, those subsectors are growing faster in Utah than anywhere else in the nation. Click [here](#) for more information.

Utah PTAC Procurement Symposium

On Tuesday October 22, the Utah PTAC will host its eighth annual procurement symposium at the South Towne Exposition Center, beginning at 7:45 a.m. This event will have several breakout sessions, a lunch, a vendor fair and a networking session. For more information on registration and tickets, click [here](#).

USTAR Recognized For Role In Expanding Utah's Innovation Economy

The Utah Science Technology and Research Initiative (USTAR) have been awarded the Expanding Research Capacity award at the 2013 State Science and Technology Institute's (SSTI) Excellence in Technology Based Economic Development (TBED) national award program. The State Science and Technology Institute is a national nonprofit that leads, supports and strengthens efforts to improve state and regional economies through science, technology and innovation.



In related news, the James L. Sorenson Molecular Biotechnology Building - a USTAR Innovation Center at the University of Utah recently received LEED Gold Certification. Layton Construction was the general contractor on the building project. More information at www.innovationutah.com.

Teachers Trained On New STEM Learning Technologies

Teachers from across the state met in August for a demonstration of new educational

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technologies that will be piloted in schools this fall. The training was organized by GOED and the STEM Action Center, and presented teachers with technologies that aim to close achievement gaps and increase college readiness in math. The initial pilot is expected to reach roughly 25 percent of the state's targeted population. Click [here](#) for more information.

U.S. News Releases College Rankings For Utah

In its newly released rankings, U.S. News listed the Brigham Young University at number 62 among national schools, University of Utah as 121, with Utah State University at 190. Among regional schools, Westminster College ranked at 22, Southern Utah University at 71, and Weber State University at 80. Both BYU and the U of U were ranked among the best schools for undergraduate business and engineering degrees. For more information, click [here](#).

Recent Utah Accolades

A "Brag and Boast" feature for Utah business

GOED is pleased to invite readers to submit any accolades or rankings made in industry regarding a specific company, event, or the state of Utah in general. Please submit "brag and boast" ideas to [Michael O'Malley](#) for possible inclusion in a future issue of Utah Talks. Readers are encouraged to use these rankings in speeches or other public releases.

Utah's Economy Expanded 2 Percent Over Last Five Years

[Utah's economy](#) has expanded at 2 percent over the last five years, the fourth best in the U.S., according to *Forbes*. In addition to the pro-business climate, companies benefit from energy costs that are 29 percent below the national average. Utah recently took third place in the Forbes list of "Best States For Business and Careers," after a three year run at the number one spot.

Utah Top State For Small Business Entrepreneurs

Utah has been named the best state for small business by [Thumbtack.com](#), a nonprofit that promotes entrepreneurship. The survey used data from thousands of small business owners across the nation, and found Utah's rank improved from number four last year. Small business operators gave Utah an A grade for its business-friendly regulations, and an A+ for the ease of starting a new business.

Salt Lake City Tops Career Builder Job Survey

According to CareerBuilder, [Salt Lake City](#) has generated more than 62,000 jobs since 2010, and has produced more job growth per capita than any of the other cities in the 100 largest metros that CareerBuilder surveyed – 534 new jobs per 10,000 people. Industries that added the most jobs in the Salt Lake metro area were electronic shopping and mail order houses, software publishing, specialized freight trucking and non-bank lenders. 

Salt Lake One Of Happiest, Healthiest Cities In America

Salt Lake City ranked second in the nation for [happiest and healthiest cities](#) in America, behind San Jose, CA. Of the many reasons Salt Lake City ranked so high, low cancer rates and high cancer-survival rates were among the top. The city's family and social supports were also a factor in the rankings.

Provo/Orem Area Ranked 11th For High-Tech Startups

A recent report from [Engine and the Kauffman Foundation](#) showed that the Provo-Orem cluster was 11th in the nation for information and communications high-tech startup density. Salt Lake was close behind in 12th place, making Utah a leader in high-tech startup growth. The Provo-Orem area also ranked 20th in the nation for venture capital investing.



About the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED)

The Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) charter is based on Governor Gary Herbert's commitment to economic development statewide. Utah's economic development vision is that Utah will lead the nation as the best performing economy and be recognized as a premier global business destination. The mandate for this office is to provide rich business resources for the creation, growth and recruitment of companies to Utah and to increase tourism and film production in the state. GOED accomplishes this mission through the administration of programs that are based around targeted industries or "economic clusters" that demonstrate the best potential for development. GOED utilizes state resources and private sector contracts to fulfill its mission.

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