UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Success Stories of Related Companies

More than 60 companies have ties to Utah State University through faculty or alumni. USU-related companies have had an enormous impact on Utah's economy, with the top 30 businesses employing more than 1,300 workers, paying $61.3 million in annual salaries, and generating more than $315 million in annual revenues. Here are descriptions of some of the best:

HyClone®

Rex Spendlove, a USU microbiology professor, founded HyClone to produce and market fetal bovine serum (FBS), a substance used in culturing organic material. HyClone has become the world leader in FBS production, having established the standard in the industry. HyClone also has developed core competencies in bioprocess container systems, which are high quality, disposable containers for various biological substances. HyClone serves customers worldwide from its sites in the United Kingdom, Belgium, China, and New Zealand, but its headquarters and primary manufacturing sites are in Logan, Utah. HyClone employs about 500 people at its five facilities in Cache Valley.

CAMPBELL SCIENTIFIC, INC.

Utah State University students Eric and Evan Campbell founded Campbell Scientific as an outgrowth of their research at USU in soil physics in 1974. The company manufactures dataloggers, data acquisition systems, and measurement and control products used worldwide in research and industry, and it recently expanded its development of data retrieval peripherals, sensors, and systems. Campbell Scientific instrumentation is especially known for its reliability and precision. The company has stayed in the Campbell family, with CEO Paul Campbell, and has grown to over 200 employees with affiliate companies in England, Canada, Brazil, South Africa and Australia. In 1996, Campbell Scientific moved its manufacturing, service, and support activities into a new 17,000 sq. ft. facility in Logan, Utah.

WESCOR®

In 1970, a group of USU faculty members founded Wescor, a company that develops, manufactures, and markets high-quality instrumentation and other products for medicine, science, and industry. Wescor recently acquired Omnidata International, which will allow greater diversification and expansion. Wescor has three divisions—biomedical products, information products, and environmental products—each specializing in providing innovative product solutions for their respective markets. Company operations include 90 employees at two locations in Logan, Utah.

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Juniper Systems, Inc., formerly known as HarvestMaster, grew out of Campbell Scientific and provides high-quality, ruggedized computing equipment. In the field of natural resources, Juniper Systems provides computing for forestry management, log-yard data collection, fisheries, wildlife resources, and rangeland management. Juniper also provides data acquisition for the agriculture market in seed research, bulk crop monitoring, and electronic field note taking. These products have resulted in superior customer satisfaction while providing growth and prosperity for employees, investors, and the community. The 50-person company celebrated its ten-year anniversary in 2003 and moved into new company headquarters in Logan, Utah, in 2004.

Autonomous Solutions, Inc. (ASI) began as a spin-off company from the Center for Self Organizing and Intelligent Systems (CSOIS) at Utah State University. A 40-person company located in Logan, Utah, ASI was founded by Mel Torrie, a USU grad and manager at the CSOIS, to develop autonomous technologies robust enough for commercial applications. ASI has extensive experience in the automation of large-scale vehicles and machinery with an emphasis on path planning, sensor fusion, precision vehicle control, and point-and-click ease of use. ASI has created automated vehicles for the U.S. Departments of Energy, Defense, and Education; Northrop Grumman/Remotec; Goodyear; Lockheed Martin; and John Deere.

Frontier Scientific, Inc. (FSI) was started as Porphyrin Products, Inc. in 1975 by former USU professor Bruce Burnham. In 1999, it became Frontier Scientific, and today three of the 26-person company's four shareholders (Jerry Bommer, Bert Israelsen and Wayne Watkins) are USU alumni. Frontier Scientific develops new and novel chemicals for research and discovery. With over 600 catalog items and thousands of other compounds custom synthesized, FSI's expertise is well known in many product categories–from all types of boronic acids to porphyrin compounds, and more. Used for drug discovery and materials science, these unique compounds offer researchers an extremely versatile and powerful synthetic tool for constructing complex and highly functionalized molecules.

USU professors Scott Budge, Paul Israelsen, and Richard Harris licensed their image-compression technology to Jim Sorenson to start his Salt Lake City company, Sorenson Vision, in 1996. Israelsen worked as chief technology officer for Sorenson Vision from 1996 to 2002. In mid-2005, the company split into Sorenson Communications and Sorenson Media. Sorenson Communications is a provider of industry-leading communication offerings. Sorenson Video Relay Service (VRS) enables deaf and hard-of-hearing callers to conduct video relay conversations through a qualified American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter. Sorenson IP Relay allows users to place text-based relay calls from either a mobile device or a computer to any telephone user. The company's line of Sorenson videophones are the only customized videophones with auto-updating technology, which includes the latest video communication features for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

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