

THE COMPETITIVE EDGE

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Shawn Utt/Doug Hudson,
Acting Incubator Managers

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INTER Materials Expands out of NRV Business Center

INTER Materials joined the NRV Business Center in September 2009 and occupied 4,000+ square feet of space for many years. They are now expanding/graduating out of the NRV Business Center and will occupy nearly 20,000 sq. ft. in the Bob White Building in Pulaski, VA. INTER Materials, LLC, is incorporated in Richmond, Virginia, with two major SBIR Phase II Research & Development programs: 1) Development of a low cost manufacturing process for thermoplastic matrix ballistic helmets for the US Army, and 2) Development of a scratch and abrasion resistant coating for polymer windscreens for rotary wind aircraft for the US Army SOCOM.

Dr. Francisco Folgar stated, "First of all, INTER Materials would like to thank the New River Valley Business Center organization for all their support. We feel very fortunate to have found a larger facility within Pulaski County that will enable us to continue our expansion and growth. As a result of the innovations INTER Materials have demonstrated in recent years, we have received funding from the DoD to commercialize our Light Weight Ballistic Helmet technology, and from the Air Force, to further develop Optical Anti-Reflective (AR) Coatings using our Plasma Deposition technology. This funding will place INTER Materials in a position to bid for Government contracts within the next 2-3 years that will generate many additional jobs and will require a substantial amount of new capital investment." Mr. Shawn Utt with the NRV Business Center went on to say, "While it's certainly sad to lose a tenant, it is refreshing to see one grow into a successful venture. INTER Materials has been a great company to work with and we wish them continued success."

While there is no doubting the tremendous economic impact of the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center in Blacksburg, VA, just 15-20 minutes away is another successful business catalyst in the New River Valley. The New River Valley Business Center acts and serves as another one of the region's successful business incubators.

"It is great to see companies expanding out of the New River Valley Business Center. High growth potential companies like INTER Materials will drive our future economy and we are very excited to have their expansion here in the New River Valley of Virginia," commented Mr. Aric H. Bopp of the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance.

The NRV Business Center would like to thank the NRV Economic Development Alliance for the content of this article.



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