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Washington Wire - December 2005

Author: Rockey, Hill & Knowlton

12/1/2005 — OLYMPIA, Wash. Washington has added 85,000 new jobs in the past year, an increase of 3.1 percent – a rate that far surpasses national job growth of 1.7 percent for the same period, Gov. Christine Gregoire has reported. Every region in Washington saw strong job growth. Construction, aerospace, software publishing and professional and business services experienced the strongest job growth among industries, Gregoire said. For more information visit: [Jobs](#).

COLVILLE, Wash. The state Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) announced \$592,300 in public investments to create new jobs and boost business growth across the state, including an expansion of state’s oldest aluminum boat manufacturer. The board conditionally approved a \$381,000 loan and \$148,800 grant to the City of Colville to help extend sewer and water services to support the expansion of Hewes Marine Company, Inc. Increased demand for the handcrafted Hewes boats is driving the expansion. The company will hire 33 new employees and up to 50 over the next five years. CERB also announced a \$12,500 grant to assist the Port of Othello with costs to assess the feasibility of a small business development facility and a \$50,000 grant to Public Utility District No. 1 of Skamania County to assist with planning associated with supplying potable water to the Carson Mineral Hot Springs Resort. For more information about the project please visit: [CERB](#) and click on “Press Release, November 17, 2005.”

RICHLAND, Wash. IsoRay Medical, Inc., the sole manufacturer and distributor of Cesium-131 isotope seeds used in brachytherapy for the treatment of prostate cancer, will expand its production capabilities with the opening of a new facility in Richland. The new production line with custom packaging capabilities is expected to increase seed output and enhance delivery systems offered by the company, a wholly owned subsidiary of a public company, IsoRay, Inc. For more information visit: [IsoRay](#).

AUBURN, Wash. Corporate Express Office Products, Inc. plans to open a distribution center at Auburn North Distribution Center to meet growing demand for office products and services in the Pacific Northwest. Corporate Express will occupy 168,000 square feet at the facility, located along state Route 167. Auburn North is being built by Panattoni Development Co. and financed by ING Clarion Partners. For more information visit: [Corporate Express](#).

REPUBLIC, Wash. [Stone Soup](#) a non-profit organization with offices in Olympia and Republic, opened its virtual doors to the world today through “The Virtual Frontier”. Using over \$100,000 in federal funding from the Small Business Technology Transfer Act, Stone Soup designed and built a virtual community for small businesses in the Pacific Northwest. The project shows how a small business can reach a global market and the economic impact is estimated to be \$7.1 million. For more information visit:

Brian Bruininks, CCIM, David Baumer and George Rockwell, SIOR of The Andover Company, Inc. were the listing agents on this long term lease by Corporate Express at Auburn North Distribution Center. This article was published by the Washington State Department of Community and Economic Development in December of 2005.

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