

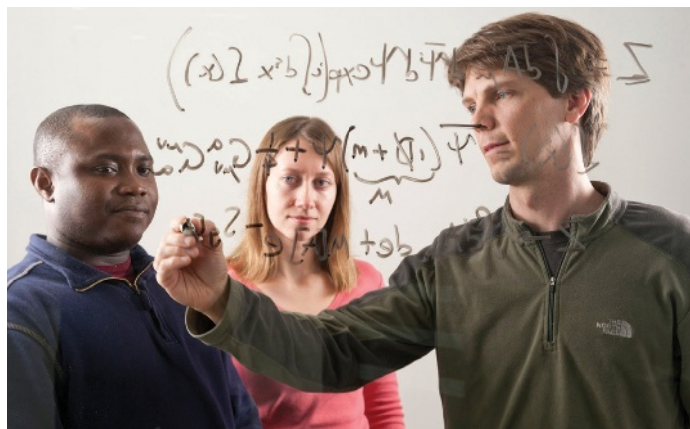
A CITY ON THE MOVE

Global companies in high tech, robotics, manufacturing, and research and development call it home.

By Deborah R. Huso

What's new in Newport News? The tagline says it all: Newport News – where great things are happening. Nestled within the lush green landscape and beautiful waterfront settings is an outstanding and engaged corporate community which is anchored in high-tech research and technology. Newport News is home to growing global and regional companies which

Clockwise from top: The Apprentice School, a thriving seafood industry, research at Jefferson Lab, and Liebherr Mining Equipment



capitalize on the pro-business environment, the highly trained workforce and the stellar location.

The Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab), a world-class nuclear physics research center, has been a hub for the transfer of research to technology. Jefferson Lab advances technologies for its discovery science, including detector systems for imaging subatomic particles. That technology has been transferred to the market under license to Dillon Technologies Inc, which brings innovative new life-saving medical imaging products to the global market. Dillon's cornerstone product is a high-resolution, small field-of-view gamma camera which has been proven to detect cancer missed by mammography and ultrasound, and which is used at premier medical facilities like the Cornell University Medical Center and the George Washington University Medical Center.

A discovery made at Jefferson Lab in collaboration with NASA Langley Research Center and the National Institute of Aerospace of a process for producing boron nitride nanotubes (BNNTs) led to the first high-quality, commercially available BNNTs. The ability to produce high-quality

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BNNTs in commercial quantities makes it possible to explore their benefits in many anticipated applications, including membranes that generate power from seawater, suits shielding first responders, protective thermal coatings for high-speed aerospace vehicles, and drugs and therapies that improve cancer treatments. BNNT, LLC, a start-up company whose key staff members include the inventors, licensed the technology and set up its factory across the street from Jefferson Lab in Newport News.

A Pro-Business City

Newport News is home to many international companies. Liebherr Mining Equipment Newport News Company, which manufactures the world's largest mining trucks, has five companies under the Liebherr Group in the city. "By growing our operations in Newport News, we are able to take advantage of the skilled workforce in the area, direct access to the transportation options necessary for delivery of our supplies and end-user products, and a favorable business climate," says Cort Reiser, executive vice president of manufacturing. "The city has been a partner in our operations and sup-



ported us throughout the years. That has played a major role in our decision to expand manufacturing operations here."

The city understands the importance of strengthening and diversifying its tax base and fostering a climate for job creation. Since 1985, Canon Virginia, Inc. has been manufacturing products in Newport News. CVI serves as Canon's

