

2C THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

8 local companies honored for efforts

JOBS, from 1C

companies, and look forward to their future growth."

Eight companies specifically were recognized for percentage job growth in various categories, for being a new local company creating the most jobs or for creating the most jobs overall. They included:

■ **Small manufacturer:** LRM Industries, 12 new jobs, a 71 percent increase.

■ **Medium manufacturer:** Liberty Aerospace Inc., 65 new jobs, a 62 percent increase.

■ **Large manufacturer:** Bulova Technologies EMS LLC, 15 new jobs, a 5 percent increase.

■ **Major manufacturer:** DRS Optronics Inc., 220 new jobs, a 24 percent increase.

■ **Advanced technology:** The

List of EDC's award nominees

These were the nominees for business awards at the Economic Development Commission of the Space Coast's 15th annual Industry Appreciation Banquet. The number of jobs created is in parenthesis. * Denotes winner.

■ **Small manufacturer** (employing one to 25 jobs)
AJT & Associates Inc. (five new jobs)
EDAK Inc. (16)
FYI Corp. (14)
Geo Systems Inc. (six)
K-Lite Products (four)
* LRM Industries (12)

■ **Medium manufacturer** (26-250 workers):
Avidyne Corp. (18 new jobs)
Delta Group Electronics (two)
Guardian Manufacturing (two)
IAP Worldwide Services (39)
* Liberty Aerospace Inc. (65)

■ **Large manufacturer** (251-500 workers):

* Bulova Technologies EMS LLC (15 new jobs)
Knights Armament (13)

■ **Major manufacturer** (more than 500 workers):
* DRS Optronics (220 new jobs)
Harris Corp. (342)
Rockwell Collins (102)

■ **Advanced technology:**
AuthenTec (16 new jobs)
L-3 Communications (25)
Modus Operandi (four)
* The Software Specialists Inc. (10)

■ **Customer support center** (services to manufacturing/high-tech companies):
* Percepta Inc. (156 new jobs)

■ **Newcomer** (established operations in Brevard within past year):
* MedSolutions Inc. (140 new jobs)

Software Specialists Inc., 10 new jobs, a 40 percent increase.

■ **Customer-support center:** Percepta Inc., 156 new jobs, a 41 percent increase.

■ **Newcomer:** MedSolutions

Inc., 140 new jobs.

■ **Most manufacturing jobs created:** Harris Corp., 342 new jobs. ■

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Photos by Kathleen Hinkel, FLORIDA TODAY

New Jobs. Sommai Madden assembles printed circuit boards on an assembly line at Bulova Technologies in Melbourne. The company created 15 new jobs last year.

Creating new jobs pays off for local companies

BY WAYNET PRICE
FLORIDA TODAY

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast on Wednesday honored 22 Brevard County companies for creating new jobs over the past year and for their overall contribution to the local economy.

More than 200 business and community leaders attended the annual event, which the Rockledge-based economic or-

ganization times to coincide with Florida's Industry Appreciation Week.

This was the Economic Development Commission's 15th anniversary for its annual business recognition event.

Companies recognized Wednesday, ranging from smaller employers like AJT & Associates to larger manufacturers like Harris Corp., are responsible for creating 1,226 jobs over the past year, officials said.

"These companies are helping to broaden Brevard's employment base within high-wage industries, such as manufacturing and high-tech, and to ensure the future growth and prosperity of our community," said Lynda Weatherman, chief executive officer and president of the Economic Development Commission. "We are extremely pleased with the influx of new jobs and capital investment by these

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At work. Yoshi Lambertson is an employee with Bulova Technologies. The Melbourne firm is one of 8 recognized for creating new jobs last year.