



City of Ormond Beach

City Hall, 22 S. Beach Street • Ormond Beach, FL 32175-0277 • (386) 677-0311

Press Release:
September 21, 2018

Contact: Loretta Moio
Public Information Officer
386-676-3315
Email: moio@ormondbeach.org

Ormond Beach Business Recognized as a 2018 Florida Company to Watch

— Entrepreneurial styles, corporate cultures give these
second-stage companies competitive advantages—

The City of Ormond Beach and GrowFL are pleased to announce that Germfree is among 50 statewide honorees selected for the 2018 Florida Companies to WatchSM. These companies were selected from more than 500 nominees for the award, hosted by GrowFL, a statewide economic development organization, in association with the Edward Lowe Foundation.

The winning company's management team, competitive market position and strong community involvement were among several factors that put them in contention for the award.

"These stand-out companies are all led by entrepreneurs, and have demonstrated their capacity and intent to grow," said Dr. Tom O'Neal, GrowFL executive director. "They also all have critical intellectual property or a niche position that gives them a competitive edge in their markets," he said.

"The City of Ormond Beach is proud to have Germfree in the community. Their commitment to innovation, quality, and to customer satisfaction propels them to lead the pack in their industry and sets the stage for future success," said Brian Rademacher, Economic Development Director, City of Ormond Beach.

Kevin Kyle, President of Germfree said, "Germfree is proud to be recognized as one of the 2018 Florida Companies to Watch. Our product innovations, engineering expertise, and manufacturing excellence allow us to deliver high-tech cleanrooms and equipment to both domestic and international markets. Our growth path is enabled through focus on our customers and our people. I would like to thank GrowFL for this honor and dedicate it to the superb Team at Germfree!"

Below is the complete list of Florida Companies to Watch:

Company Name	City	County	Primary Business
8-koi	Melbourne	Brevard	Management Consulting Services

Alluvionic, Inc.	Melbourne	Brevard	Management Consulting Services
ArgoTrak	Naples	Collier	Other Services (except Public Administration)
Artemis Plastics, LLC	Ocala	Marion	Manufacturing
AXI International	Fort Myers	Lee	Manufacturing
Beast Code, LLC	Fort Walton Beach	Okaloosa	Computer Systems Design and Related Services
Benseron Hospitality	Naples	Collier	Computer Systems Design and Related Services
Body Details, LLLP	Boca Raton	Palm Beach	Other Services (except Public Administration)
Burgess Civil, LLC	Tampa	Hillsborough	Construction
Bush Brothers Provision Company	West Palm Beach	Palm Beach	Wholesale Trade
CloudHesive	Fort Lauderdale	Broward	Information Technology
ContentBacon	Davie	Broward	Advertising, Public Relations, and Related Services
Cornerstone Fabrication, LLC	Debary	Volusia	Manufacturing
Cruise Car, Inc.	Sarasota	Manatee	Manufacturing
Custom Manufacturing & Engineering	Pinellas Park	Pinellas	Manufacturing
DAK Resources, Inc.	Jacksonville	Duval	Administrative and Support Services
Digital Boardwalk, Inc.	Pensacola	Escambia	Information Technology
Digital Resource, LLC	West Palm Beach	Palm Beach	Advertising, Public Relations, and Related Services
Easy Foods, Inc.	Kissimmee	Osceola	Manufacturing
Electronic Locksmith, Inc.	Apopka	Orange	Retail Trade
EPIC Engineering & Consulting Group, LLC	Winter Springs	Seminole	Information Technology
Expert Shutter Services	Port St. Lucie	St. Lucie	Manufacturing
Firehawk Helicopters	Leesburg	Lake	Other Services (except Public Administration)
Flame Boss	Orlando	Orange	Manufacturing
Forcura	Jacksonville	Duval	Information Technology
Fountainhead Commercial Capital	Lake Mary	Seminole	Finance and Insurance
FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Centers	Sarasota	Sarasota	Health Care and Social Assistance
G.S. Gelato & Desserts, Inc.	Fort Walton Beach	Okaloosa	Manufacturing
Germfree	Ormond Beach	Volusia	Manufacturing
GM HILL	Jacksonville	Duval	Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services
Hesperos, Inc.	Orlando	Orange	Scientific Research and Development
Intellisteel Group, LLC	Leesburg	Lake	Manufacturing
Knight Federal Solutions	Orlando	Orange	Scientific and Technical Consulting Services
Matthews Design Group, Inc.	St. Augustine	St. Johns	Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services
Motorworks Brewing	Bradenton	Manatee	Manufacturing
Next Horizon	Sanford	Seminole	Information Technology
Oasis Senior Advisors	Bonita Springs	Lee	Health Care and Social Assistance
RND Automation	Sarasota	Manatee	Manufacturing
Sarasota Medical Products, Inc.	Sarasota	Sarasota	Manufacturing
Structural Composites, a division of The Composites Company	W. Melbourne	Brevard	Scientific Research and Development
Sunrise Capital Investors	Clearwater	Pinellas	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
Sus Hi Eatstation	Orlando	Orange	Accommodation and Food Services
The Collage Companies	Lake Mary	Seminole	Construction

three.two.one	Orlando	Orange	Advertising, Public Relations, and Related Services
Triple E Equipment, Inc.	Pompano Beach	Broward	Retail Trade
US Submergent Technologies, LLC	Sarasota	Sarasota	Waste Management and Remediation Services
Vac-Tron Equipment	Okahumpka	Lake	Manufacturing
Vectra Digital	Fort Myers	Lee	Advertising, Public Relations, and Related Services
VetCor, LLC	Tampa	Hillsborough	Other Services (except Public Administration)
World Housing Solution, Inc.	Sanford	Seminole	Manufacturing

“This is a strong group of companies that deserve this special recognition given annually to the state's top second stage companies,” said Dr. Chris Morton, Chairman of the GrowFL Advisory Board, CEO of NanoPhotonica and a 2015 Florida Companies to Watch honoree. Second-stage companies are defined as those with 6 to 150 full-time employees and between \$750,000 and \$100 million in annual revenue. There are many programs and incubators promoting start-up businesses; GrowFL is the only Florida program that focuses exclusively on second-stage companies.

The 50 companies named the 2018 Florida Companies to Watch generated nearly \$1 billion in revenue and added nearly 1,000 jobs between 2014 and 2017. Together, the companies project a 50 percent increase in revenue and 40 percent increase in job growth in 2018 compared to 2017. Companies named to the list will be officially recognized on February 9, 2019, at the Straz Performing Arts Center in Tampa. Tickets are on sale now for the awards ceremony. For more information or to purchase tickets for the awards ceremony, please visit <http://www.growfl.com/flctw18/about-flctw/>

###

Germfree

Germfree, a manufacturer located in Ormond Beach, Florida, provides controlled aseptic environments as well as primary and secondary containment to serve the rigorous demands of our clients. Our laboratory equipment, cleanrooms, cGMP facilities and biosafety labs deliver solutions across the complete life science spectrum.

About GrowFL:

GrowFL provides strategies, resources and support, including strategic research and peer-to-peer CEO mentoring and leadership development, to second-stage Florida companies. Created by the Florida legislature in 2009 and grounded in the philosophy of Economic Gardening® — growing existing businesses in a community, region or state — GrowFL is a critical component of the state’s economic development strategy and Florida’s entrepreneurial ecosystem. GrowFL is certified by the National Center for Economic Gardening through the Edward Lowe Foundation. Website: [growfl.com](http://www.growfl.com)

About the Edward Lowe Foundation:

Established in 1985, the Edward Lowe Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization that supports entrepreneurship through research, recognition and educational programs, which are delivered through entrepreneur support organizations (ESOs). The foundation focuses on second-stage companies — those that have moved beyond the startup phase and seek significant, steady growth. In addition, the foundation has a second mission of land stewardship and is committed to preserving the natural resources and historically significant structures at Big Rock Valley, its 2,000-acre home in southwest Michigan.