

New Mexico Business Weekly - December 22, 2008
<http://albuquerque.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/stories/2008/12/22/story7.html>

NEW MEXICO BUSINESS WEEKLY

Friday, December 19, 2008

Now in its 10th year, Sandia industrial park continues

New Mexico Business Weekly - by [Kevin Robinson-Avila](#) NMBW Staff

Two new high tech tenants have joined the 10th anniversary celebrations at Sandia Science and Technology Park.

Alabama-based **AEGIS Technologies Group Inc.** and New York-based **MOOG Inc.** moved into the park this fall.

AEGIS, a 20-year-old company with \$33 million in annual sales, does modeling and simulation for military and civilian clients and produces micro-electro mechanical systems.

MOOG, a publicly traded company with \$1.9 billion in revenue, designs precision-control systems for aircraft, satellites and launch vehicles. It recently acquired **CSA Engineering**, another tenant at the park.

The park's Executive Director Jackie Kerby Moore, said the arrival of AEGIS and MOOG shows that the park remains a powerful magnet for high-tech industry.

"Since the park opened in May 1998, we've had a fairly steady flow of construction and companies moving in," Moore said. "It's been almost non-stop for a decade, and it's still growing."

The park's program leader, Jim Clinch, said 29 companies and research institutions now reside at the site, located just east of Kirtland Air Force Base and Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque's Southeast Heights.

Tenants occupy nearly 900,000 square feet of industrial and administrative space. They include private engineering and manufacturing firms that manage contracts with Kirtland and Sandia, as well as government laboratories and facilities, such as the Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies.

The park has attracted nearly \$310 million in public and private investment since it opened, with 2,118 employees now working there, Clinch said. And there's still plenty of room to grow, since only about 70 of the 300-plus acres available have actually been developed.

Proximity to Sandia and Kirtland is a big attraction for companies. But the site's modern infrastructure, such as a fiber optic telecommunications system, as well as co-location next to other high-tech companies, are also major draws, Moore said.

"There is a high-tech community aspect to the park," she said. "They're not just buying real estate and moving in, they're buying into a technology community to work with Sandia and Kirtland and with other companies."

Indeed, Kent Taylor, program manager for directed energy sensors at AEGIS, said the prospect of doing business with other park tenants in addition to Sandia and Kirtland was a major draw for his company.

AEGIS has occupied a 3,500-square-foot office at **Two Park Square** in Uptown Albuquerque since 1999. But it built a new, 1,700-square-foot laser lab at Sandia park to better manage its own contracts with government and commercial clients, and also to rent its high-tech laser lab to its neighbors.

"We located at Sandia because it's close to a lot of other companies that do nanotechnology," Taylor said.

AEGIS's new lab reflects a strategic expansion in Albuquerque. It plans to increase its Uptown office by 2,000 square feet next spring, Taylor said.

AEGIS also rents a 2,000-square-foot space off Yale Boulevard near the Albuquerque International Sunport where it conducts semiconductor research in collaboration with the **University of New Mexico**.

MOOG has occupied a few small offices adjacent to CSA Engineering since last year, but in September, it opened a 2,400-square-foot space to accommodate growth, said Engineering Site Manager Jim Baughman.

The company has eight people, but it's expanding to 15, reflecting MOOG's decision to concentrate more of its workload in Albuquerque.

"MOOG has a lot of business, but it can't get enough people to locate at its headquarters in East Aurora, New York, so they find pools of talent in other strategic locations to support work at the central offices," Baughman said. "That's what you see happening here. Albuquerque has a fairly good pool of talented people to draw on."

CSA also employs 10 people, but that company continues to operate independently as a wholly owned subsidiary of MOOG, Baughman said.

krobinson-avila@bizjournals.com / 348-8302

All contents of this site © American City Business Journals Inc. All rights reserved.