



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Meopta U.S.A. Chooses Pasco County for Hi-Tech Manufacturing Facility

Photonics company to create 47 new jobs.

PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA (October 2, 2017) — The Pasco Economic Development Council (Pasco EDC) and Pasco County worked together to recruit Meopta U.S.A. (Meopta), to open a new facility in west Pasco. Meopta plans on using the Pasco County Job Creation Incentive Program in hiring 47 new positions in advanced manufacturing.

Meopta is a manufacturer that has been headquartered in Hauppauge, New York, for 20 years. They specialize in the manufacturing and distribution of precision optics including binoculars, and spotting and rifle scopes. The company also manufactures prisms, optical mirrors and assemblies for the aerospace and medical industries, as well as periscopes for tanks.

"We are making a significant effort to grow the manufacturing industry sector in Pasco," said Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County Commissioner. "It's great that Meopta U.S.A. pays above the county's average wage, that's what we need here."

The company is updating a formerly vacant building at 7826 Photonics Drive, in the Trinity area where they expect to draw experienced job candidates from Pasco and surrounding counties. The 47 new jobs exceed the average Pasco County wage at around 125 percent, or roughly \$49,000 per year.

"Pasco County has a long history in the photonics industry and our experienced and talented workforce makes Pasco County an attractive location for companies like Meopta, shared Bill Cronin, President/CEO of Pasco EDC. "We are happy that Meopta has chosen Pasco County to grow their business."

For more information on Meopta U.S.A. visit www.meoptasportsoptics.com or www.meopta.com.

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About Pasco Economic Development Council

The Pasco Economic Development Council is committed to developing Florida's most competitive climate for business growth by providing businesses, that seek to start, move, or grow in the North Tampa Bay area, a comprehensive suite of programs that can help them to reach their full economic potential. Since 1987, Pasco EDC has fostered a strong partnership funded by corporate and public investors focused on the economic vitality of Pasco County. Discover more at www.pascoedc.com.