



Research and Development in the Bluegrass

November 2016

Lexington is a thriving area for research and development. With a highly educated workforce, a culture of innovation, and infrastructure to support entrepreneurs, Lexington has the assets to support R&D in any field. Home to the world headquarters of Lexmark and housing software industry giants Xerox, IBM, and Hewlett Packard, Lexington consistently receives high praise such as **#17 America's Top 25 High-Tech Hot Spots** by *The Atlantic Cities* (2013), **#4 Best Entrepreneurial Activity** by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2015), and being named a 2013 Google eCity.

Many of Lexington's companies are not traditional laboratory research and development operations, but nevertheless possess an innovative core that produces cutting edge advancements. This is especially true of the city's smaller companies and startups that do not categorize resources as R&D but use innovative processes to create value from ideas and become successful enterprises. Every year, an average of **227 patents** are issued to Lexington inventors, with a total of **2,493 patents since 2005**.¹ The University of Kentucky, located in Lexington, produces cutting edge R&D and has been a valuable partner to many businesses and entrepreneurs.

Software and IT

IBM operates branch offices in Lexington, employing over 500 people at IBM Global Services. In 1991, IBM created a spin-off, Lexmark, a major provider of printing products, imaging, software, solutions, and services. Lexmark is headquartered in Lexington and has over 2,100 employees in the city conducting R&D and managing the global enterprise. In 2015, Lexmark led Lexington companies in patents, with 73 patents awarded.

Funai Electric Company, Ltd. acquired Lexmark's inkjet technology assets, over 1,500 patents, and a manufacturing facility in 2013 and announced plans to open a subsidiary, Funai Lexington Technology Corporation. The new company employs 40 people and conducts research and development in inkjet and microfluidic technologies.

¹ United States Patent and Trademark Office, current as of July 28, 2016.

Although not headquartered in Lexington, Xerox is a major presence in the city. As a leader in business processing and IT outsourcing, thousands of companies rely on Xerox for IT services and solutions, including data center management, disaster recovery, network management services, and high-volume support services. Currently, Xerox employs 3,000 people in Lexington and is one of the region's largest employers.

"Lexmark has been headquartered in Lexington since 1991, and we are proud to call it home. Lexington's educated workforce and the wide array of colleges and universities in the region continue to be vital to our success as an innovative, dynamic global technology company." - Jeri Isbell, Vice President, Human Resources of Lexmark International and 2012 Chairman of Commerce Lexington Inc.

Galmont Consulting LLC is a leading software testing and consultant company located in Lexington. In 2015, Galmont was purchased by [Software Quality Systems \(SQS\)](#), the global specialist supplier of software quality systems, for \$22 million. By acquiring Galmont, SQS diversified and extended its geographic operations, expanded its revenue base, and created new business opportunities through Galmont's established business relationships. As with many mergers and acquisitions of Lexington companies, SQS kept operations in Lexington. This recommitment to the region is proof that Lexington is a profitable location for software and IT, and that Lexington's workforce can provide the innovation and skills that these companies need to thrive.

Lexington also has a unique group of software startups and entrepreneurial companies. To help foster innovation and help entrepreneurs succeed, the University of Kentucky opened the Advanced Science & Technology Commercialization Center (ASTeCC). ASTeCC is a premier business incubator that provides lab space for startups and connects researchers and entrepreneurs to economic development activities such as commercializing and licensing. Smaller, independent organizations have joined ASTeCC and have successfully engaged the growing software and technology community in Lexington. In fact, 42 new companies have "graduated" from ASTeCC.

"The acquisition of Galmont, which has built an outstanding and established reputation, significantly expands our presence in this large and growing market for us. We warmly welcome Galmont's highly talented team to SQS and look forward to continuing to build upon their client base and excellent reputation as a leading independent software testing consultancy in the U.S." - Diederick Vos, Chief Executive Officer of SQS

To further the progress of assisting entrepreneurs, Commerce Lexington Inc., the University of Kentucky, and the City of Lexington formed the Bluegrass Business Development Partnership (BBDP), funded by the City of Lexington. The BBDP's goal is to be a one-stop, super-service provider, linking entrepreneurs with the information they need to be successful, including assistance in financial planning, business plans, funding sources, real estate, and service providers.

Another successful partnership is the Lexington Venture Club, managed by Commerce Lexington Inc. and the Lexington Office of the Kentucky Innovation Network, which is a part of the University of Kentucky's Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship within the Gatton College of Business. The Lexington Venture Club connects great ideas, interested investors, and business resources to promote a strong economy in Lexington. In 2015, the LVC and its companies created **280 new jobs and raised \$50.6 million in capital funds**. In total, these companies employ 952 people and report an average salary of \$76,929. They represent industry sectors in biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, e-commerce, independent game development, IT and software development, energy technologies, and business services—further demonstrating Lexington's position as a leading location for high-growth, high-wage, technology-based jobs.

The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development’s Office of Entrepreneurship funds the Kentucky Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) State Matching Funds Program to help create, recruit, and retain small businesses, including high-tech and biotech. The SBIR/STTR State Matching Funds Program is an innovative initiative that provides matching funds up to \$150,000 for Phase I and up to \$500,000 for Phase II for Kentucky businesses. To date more than 240 Kentucky SBIR/STTR Matching Funds have been granted to small Kentucky businesses, totaling over \$58.4 million in state funding and leveraging another \$102 million in federal funds. This program has attracted research and development companies to the region, further supported by our talented and highly educated workforce.

Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services NAICS 518210 Lexington Companies	
Company	Total Employees
Xerox	3,100
Lexmark International Inc	2,200
Amazon.com	1,300
Lockheed Martin	1,100
Trane Lexington	800
Webasto Roof Systems Inc	760
Big Ass Solutions	701
Link-Belt Construction Equipment Company	700
Valvoline	694
Galls LLC	640
UPS	580
IBM Global Services	552
Schneider Electric	500
Tempur Sealy International	420

Source: Commerce Lexington Economic Development, 2016.

Lexington has been extremely successful in recruiting SBIR/STTR companies from other states. Forty companies have relocated to Kentucky, 26 of which have located in Lexington. These companies have been a tremendous asset to our technology and R&D sector by adding over \$20 million in federal grants and research to the community, as well as receiving over \$12 million in state match funds. The companies employ nearly **130 employees with an average wage of over \$65,000 a year**. Many of the founders and researchers of these companies have invested in Lexington not only through employment and research funds, but through investment in real estate, angel investing, and time devoted to our economic development efforts.

One Lexington SBIR success story is Allylix, a small fragrances and flavors specialty chemical company. Allylix began as joint venture between a University of Kentucky plant pathologist and a Salk Institute

biologist and today holds over 60 patents. Allylix uses molecular genetics, biochemistry, structural biology, and fermentation to quickly produce flavor and fragrances at a low cost, with applications in many industries, including food ingredients, pesticides, biofuels, personal care, and agriculture. Allylix ranked #10 on *Biofuels Digest* 2014 Hottest Small Companies in the Advanced Bioeconomy. [Evolva, a public traded Swiss company, purchased Allylix for \\$59 million in 2014](#). Evolva was confident in the research and operations of the Lexington based Allylix team and has chosen to keep the operations in Lexington. Allylix currently employs 21 people.

The University of Kentucky Contributions to Lexington’s R&D

The University of Kentucky is a valuable asset for innovation and technology, offering many opportunities for collaboration between researchers, businesses, and industry. In 2015, an independent research firm estimated that the economic impact of **UK sponsored research was \$581.2 million, bringing 8,114 direct and indirect jobs to Kentucky** and \$21.3 million in state and local tax revenue. To date, UK’s patent portfolio includes 298 active patents, many from interdisciplinary and industry collaboration. With more than 30,000 undergraduate and

graduate students, more than 200 academic programs, and 16 colleges, there are endless prospects for interdisciplinary research and industry partner collaboration.

[UK's Coldstream Research Campus](#) is a premier business location designed to recruit high-tech and biotech companies, and to house university centers and startups. Coldstream is home to 66 companies and over 2,000 employees working in biotechnology, pharmaceutical, software and IT, and a variety of other industries.



Aerial of Coldstream Research Campus. – See webpage for a map of Coldstream Research Campus.

The University of Kentucky's complex and extensive healthcare network includes academics, research, and patient care, resulting in large amounts of data in various formats. The University is launching an Institute of Biomedical Informatics (IBI) to consolidate data from across the academic and medical systems. The IBI will create an innovative informatics infrastructure to improve patient care, education, and research, and it will bring together a diverse set of expertise from many colleges within the University and the College of Medicine, including faculty specializing in computational genomics, pharmacy, computer science, biostatistics, linguistics, and agriculture. The UK Computer Science Industry Partners Association (IPA) connects the Computer Science department with industry companies and stakeholders in mutual collaboration and benefit. The IPA offers industry partners access to faculty expertise, opportunities for collaborative research projects, and a pool of talented students entering the workforce. Some of the major industry partners include Corrisoft, Fishback Management and Research, Galmont Consulting, Hewlett-Packard, and Lexmark.

The [UK College of Pharmacy](#) is another asset to Lexington R&D. Ranked the **5th Best Pharmacy Program in the nation by U.S. News & World Report**, the cutting-edge medical research on disease and drug development performed by the grad students, postdoctoral scholars, and faculty has benefitted the area and the nation. Graduates enrich the workforce and faculty members have created 25 startup companies since 1989. The facility itself is the largest pharmacy education building in the world and UK pharmacy research faculty rank 4th out of 354 institutions in scholarly activity.

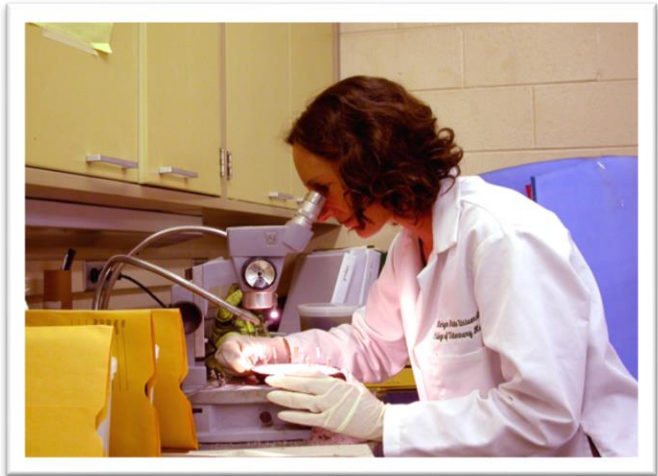
Life Sciences and Biotech R&D

The life sciences industry represents a wide range of complex markets and is a large part of R&D in Lexington. In fact, the majority of R&D expenditures at the University of Kentucky are devoted to life sciences. Lexington provides an environment where any market niche of the life sciences industry can grow, and biotechnology is particularly prominent in Lexington, with over 50 biotech companies.

Nutrition giant and biotech investor Alltech is headquartered in the Bluegrass. In 2011, Alltech expanded into the

biotech and the renewable energy field with the purchase of a \$14 million algae fermentation facility, one of the largest in the world. Algae are expected to become a crucial area of development as the United States pursues renewable sources of energy to power the country in the coming decades.

Coldstream Laboratories Inc. is a specialty pharmaceutical contract manufacturer of sterile liquid and lyophilized parenterals and injectables. Founded by the University of Kentucky Research Foundation in 2007, Coldstream Laboratories has become increasingly successful. In 2015, Piramal Enterprises Limited purchased the company for \$35 million to enhance its products by acquiring Coldstream's expertise in developing and manufacturing sterile injectables. Piramal kept Coldstream's operations in Lexington, where the company continues to thrive.



Research and Development in Other Industries

Many other companies in Lexington and the Bluegrass Region are engaged in research and development in various industries, such as advanced manufacturing, automotive, aerospace, and animal and equine sciences. One of Lexington's largest employers is [Ashland Inc., a global provider of specialty chemical solutions and the parent company of Valvoline](#), a leading provider of motor oil and automotive lubricants. Ashland currently employs 600 people in Lexington and has begun construction on a 162,400 square foot facility as the new global headquarters for Valvoline. The facility will have lab space dedicated to R&D on new synthetic oils and employ approximately 40 people. Ashland's decision is further proof that Lexington has the human capital to support thriving R&D in any industry.

The [UK Center for Applied Energy Research \(CAER\)](#) recently built a 43,000 square foot energy research and laboratory at the Spindletop Research Campus in Lexington. The building houses the [Kentucky-Argonne Battery Manufacturing Research and Development Center](#), an open access energy-related technologies and battery manufacturing R&D facility focused on renewable energy and energy storage technologies. The Center's open access format encourages industry partner collaborations and the Center strives to commercialize innovation and contribute to the national battery market.

Regional Innovation Activity

Lexington is part of the Central Kentucky Region, which includes the metropolitan areas of Lexington, Louisville, and Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati. Both Louisville and Cincinnati are approximately an hour's drive from Lexington and offer Lexington additional workforce, talent, and innovation to support the city's R&D.

The University of Louisville is a major research university with over 22,000 students enrolled in all levels of academia in 12 colleges. The University supports interdisciplinary research collaboration among its faculty and has established 18 research centers to generate new, enhanced knowledge. The University of Cincinnati has an

active research focus and received 18 issued patents in 2014. Related to Lexington's software and IT industry, the University of Cincinnati places 3,000 Computer Science, Information Technology, and Information Systems students into co-op jobs annually.

Louisville and Cincinnati have attracted many R&D facilities and software companies. The home appliance manufacturer Midea America is establishing its first North American R&D center in Louisville with a \$2.7 million investment that will create 25 new jobs. Other notable companies with locations in Louisville include Computershare, Appriss, Genentech, and Amgen. Computershare and Appriss develop software and data-drive solutions, while Genentech and Amgen are biotechnology development companies. Several Fortune 500 companies have located software and IT operations in the Cincinnati region, including Fidelity Investments, Procter & Gamble, and Citigroup. Cincinnati's Department of Community & Economic Development estimates that there are over 15,000 IT-related jobs in Cincinnati.



Local Attributes

Lexington has a high quality of life and consistently receives recognition from a variety of publications, such as #1 Best Large City for First Time Home Buyers by WalletHub (2016) and #16 Best Places for Business and Careers by *Forbes* (2015). Lexington excels in affordable housing, quality public schools, high standard of living, and access to quality education and healthcare. Furthermore, the city's central location and excellent transportation system puts Lexington within a 600-mile radius of the majority of the country's population, meaning that the Bluegrass is within overnight range of more than half of the U.S. market.

One of Lexington's greatest assets is its motivated, educated, and cutting-edge workforce. According to 2015 Census data, **41.6% of Lexington's population over age 25 has at least a Bachelor's degree and 18.9% have an advanced degree**. Compared to other cities with populations of more than 300,000 people, **Lexington ranks #11 most highly educated city in the U.S.** for both Bachelor's degree attainment and **ranks #9** for advanced degree attainment. Equally impressive, 60.1% of Lexington residents age 18 to 24 are enrolled in college or graduate school, ranking the city #10 in college enrollment rates. Lexington ranked the World's 24th Smartest City by *National Geographic* in 2014 and #6 Best Large College City by *Wallet Hub*.

These impressive statistics show the success of the region's colleges and universities. There are 10 institutions of higher education within 40 miles of Lexington enrolling nearly 70,000 students and graduating over 15,000 annually. This includes the state's flagship university, the University of Kentucky, which is located in Lexington. Furthermore, multiple community and technical colleges in the region bolster Lexington's educated workforce.

With an educated workforce, access to top colleges and universities, a strong commitment to R&D at the University of Kentucky, the ASTeCC Incubator, Coldstream Research Campus, and the backing of the Lexington business community, research and development will continue to thrive in Lexington and the Bluegrass Region!

Addendum A – Software and IT Companies

Employee numbers indicate total employees, including R&D employees.

Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services NAICS 518210 Top 40 Lexington Companies	
Company	Employees
Xerox	3,000
Lexmark International Inc	2,300
Amazon.com	1,300
Lockheed Martin	1,100
Galls LLC	1000
Trane Lexington	891
UPS	836
Webasto Roof Systems Inc	760
Link-Belt Construction Equipment Company	750
Big Ass Solutions	700
Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline)	619
IBM Global Services	500
Schneider Electric	496
Tempur Sealy International	474
Aramark Uniform Services	370
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co	368
Jif Plant	279
Lexington Dixie Plant	260
Aventics	237
Allconnect Inc	233
Stantec Consulting Services Inc	200
Lexington Herald-Leader	197
Kentucky Eagle Inc	180
Parker Seal Co	180
Ruskin	180
Pilkington North America, Lexington facility	180
Employment Solutions Inc	165
Everburn Manufacturing Inc	163
3M Ceradyne	160
GE Lighting LLC	150
Kaba Mas LLC	150
Clark Material Handling Company	145
Grayhawk LLC	145
Belcan - Lexington Design Center	140
Cintas Corporation	136
Star Manufacturing Inc	130
Hewlett Packard Company	125
Prestress Service Industries LLC	123
Tiffany and Company Jewelers Inc	122
United States Equestrian Federation Inc	122

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, 2015; Commerce Lexington, 2015.

Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services NAICS 518210 Top 40 Regional Companies		
Company	County	Employees
Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky	Scott	7,600
Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas Inc	Madison	1,272
Johnson Controls Inc	Scott	787
Montaplast of North America	Franklin	760
NACCO Materials Handling Group	Madison	618
Osram Sylvania	Woodford	538
Toyota Tsusho America Inc	Scott	520
McLane Cumberland	Jessamine	515
CMWA	Bourbon	504
QuadGraphics	Woodford	500
EnerSys	Madison	480
Alltech Inc	Jessamine	450
Buffalo Trace Distillery	Franklin	425
AMZN wacs Inc	Clark	400
Catalent Pharma Solutions	Clark	400
McKechnie Vehicle Components	Jessamine	391
Aichi Forge USA Inc	Scott	327
Vermont Castings Group	Bourbon	300
East KY Power Cooperative Inc	Clark	300
TOPY America Inc	Franklin	300
Sherwin-Williams Company	Madison	300
Qualex Manufacturing LLC	Scott	300
Pilkington North America	Woodford	300
Yokohama Industries Americas Inc/Div 1	Woodford	300
Beam Suntory	Franklin	298
R J Corman Railroad Group LLC	Jessamine	281
Phoenix Transportation Services	Scott	270
International Crankshaft Inc	Scott	261
Leggett & Platt Inc	Clark	250
The Okonite Company	Madison	249
Avantor Performance Materials	Bourbon	235
Amcor Rigid Plastics	Jessamine	235
Quanex Building Products	Madison	235
Leggett & Platt Inc	Scott	227
The Freeman Corporation	Clark	223
RockTenn	Jessamine	220
Blue Grass Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant	Madison	220
Save-A-Lot Distribution Center	Clark	210
Donaldson Co Inc	Jessamine	210
General Dynamics Information Technology Inc	Clark	208

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, 2015.

**Computer Systems Design and Related Services
NAICS 5415
Bluegrass Companies**

Company	County	Employees
Xerox	Fayette	3,000
Hewlett Packard Company	Fayette	125
Tenmast Software	Fayette	70
SIS Holding Company Inc	Fayette	63
Galmont Consulting LLC	Fayette	55
Corrisoft	Fayette	50
Global Environmental Services	Scott	41
Cypress Semiconductor	Fayette	35
NTSG Inc	Fayette	30
SDGblue LLC	Fayette	27
Dell Services Corporation	Fayette	20
Suran Systems Inc	Woodford	20
CirrusMio	Fayette	11
Frogdice Inc	Fayette	8
Archvision Inc	Fayette	7
eTechCampus LLC	Fayette	6
Medmovie	Fayette	5
Control & Automation Inc	Fayette	3
Omveria Technologies, LLC	Fayette	2
Connected Patients LLC	Fayette	1
PlanGraphics Inc	Franklin	1
Corevalus Systems LLC	Scott	0

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, 2015; Commerce Lexington, 2015.

Addendum B – Life Sciences and Biotech Research and Development

Research and Development in Biotechnology NAICS 541711 Bluegrass Region		
Company	County	Employees
Alltech Inc	Clark, Jessamine	500
inVentiv Health Clinical	Fayette	39
Transposagen Biopharmaceuticals Inc	Fayette	15
Murty Pharmaceuticals Inc	Fayette	14
United States Equestrian Federation Inc	Fayette	14
Kinetic Technologies LLC	Fayette	10
Naprogenix	Fayette	7
Venture Laboratories Inc	Fayette	7
PDX Biotech	Fayette	6
ParaTechs Corp	Fayette	5
nanoRANCH Environmental Systems	Fayette	3
Exatherm Inc	Fayette	3
Topasol LLC	Fayette	2
Vindico NanoBio Technology Inc	Fayette	2
AntiOp Inc	Fayette	1
Alkymos Inc	Fayette	1

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, 2015.

Physical and Biological Research NAICS 541712 Bluegrass Region		
Company	County	Employees
Big Ass Solutions	Fayette	700
Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline)	Fayette	619
DSM Nutritional Products LLC	Clark	40
Funai Corporation	Fayette	40
Asphalt Institute Inc	Fayette	31
Brake Parts Inc LLC	Clark	21
Central Kentucky Research Associates Inc	Fayette	20
Integrated Security Solutions	Jessamine	15
Robertson Group Inc	Scott	12
Point Six Inc	Fayette	10
nGimat LLC	Fayette	10
Argonne National Battery Lab	Fayette	8
Frogdice Inc	Fayette	8

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, 2015; Commerce Lexington, 2015.

Addendum C – Jefferson County Major Companies Conducting R&D

Companies Conducting R&D Jefferson County, Kentucky	
Company Name	Employees
Humana Inc	10,000
UNITED Parcel Svc	6,500
GE Appliances	6,000
Kosair Children's Hospital	4,800
Ford Motor Co	4,001
KFC Corp	2,000
UPS Air Group	1,500
Brown-Forman Corp	1,300
JBS	1,200
Brown-Forman Beverages Wrldwd	1,101
Glowtouch Technologies	1,000
Yum! Brands Inc	1,000
Vogt Power Intl Inc	850
Papa John's Intl Inc	600
Reynolds Consumer Products	600
Louisville Gas & Electric Co	500
Sysco Louisville Inc	500
Yum! Brands Inc	500
AAF International	200
Churchill Downs Inc	200
Long John Silver's Inc	200
Steel Technologies	130
Akzo Nobel Coatings Inc	40
Sypris Solutions Inc	23

Source: Louisville Forward, 2015.

Addendum D – Research and Development Companies in Northern Kentucky

R&D Companies in Northern Kentucky	
Company	Employees
Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing NA	1,600
Mazak	900
WILD Flavors	415
Celanese	340
Carl Zeiss Vision Inc.	198
Givaudan Flavors Corp.	194
Ppd Global Central Labs LLC	133
Post Glover Lifelink Inc.	110
Griffin Industries	97
ViaCord	50
Beckman Coulter Inc.	45
Ethos Labs	45
Andritz KMPT USA Inc.	37
Hahn Automation	28
SIRS	20
PHD Diagnostics LLC	13
Biologistics International Inc.	10
Hann Technologies	9
Angstrom Technologies LLC	8
Cardinal Laboratories	8
Immudyne Inc.	7
Abraham Research, PLLC	6
Bexion Pharmaceuticals LLC	6
Forest Laboratories	6
Wood Hudson Cancer Research	6
Drug Enhancement Company of America LLC	5
Zynerba	5
Analytical Solutions and Providers (ASAP)	4
Center for Advanced Spine Technologies	3
Allie BioDerma	2
Amelgo	2
Bacterial Robotics	2
bioLOGIC Corp LLC	2
BioTest	2
SIDS	2
Surgical Energetics	2
Molecular Diagnostics Laboratories	1
OncoTheRx	1

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development; Hoovers, Inc.; Cincinnati Business Center, 2015.

Addendum E – Patents Awarded to Lexington Companies, 2015

2015 Patents	
Company (Patent Assignee)	Patents
Lexmark International, Inc.	73
University of Kentucky Research Foundation	26
Tempur Pedic Management, LLC	19
Big Ass Solutions	3
Orthopeutics, L.P.	3
University of Kentucky	3
Fluid Management Systems, Inc.	2
Topasol, LLC	2
Acceleration Systems, LLC	1
Anthrodynamic Technologies, Animal Health Division, Inc.	1
AntiOp, Inc.	1
Aventics Corporation	1
CCB Research Group LLC	1
Diamondback Group	1
Innovative Energy Solutions	1
Reyn Pharma, LLC	1
Seikowave, Inc.	1

Source: USPTO Patent Full-Text and Image Database.
Data current through Dec. 8, 2015.

Addendum F – Lexington Rankings

Below is a sample of the rankings and accolades that Lexington and Kentucky have received in 2015 and 2014.

2015

#16 Best Place for Business and Careers, *Forbes*

#14 Best Place to Retire, *CNN Money Magazine*

#4 Top 10 Small American Cities of the Future 2015/16 for FDI Strategy, *fDi Intelligence*

#35 Large City with the Fastest Growing Economy, *Wallet Hub*

#10 Best State for Doing Business, *Area Development*

#6 Lowest Startup Costs, *Smart Asset*

#2 Kentucky City Experienceing the Most Growth in the Local Economy, *Smart Asset*

#8 Best Large City to Live In, *Wallet Hub*

#6 Most Inspiring City for Young Adults, *World Wide Learn*

#61 Largest City, U.S. Census Bureau

#1 in Projects per Capita and #6 in Number of Projects, *Site Selection Magazine*

#27 Most Literate City, *Central Connecticut State University*

#18 State with the Best Community College System, *Wallet Hub*

#5 State with the Best Schools, *Wallet Hub*

#21 Healthiest Housing Market, Large Cities, *Wallet Hub*

2014

Top 5 Best Places to Retire, *Time Magazine*

#7 Best city for Freelancers, *Nerd Wallet*

#8 Top State Business Climate, *Site Selection Magazine*

#4 Best Entrepreneurial Activity, *University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

#2 Rapid Recovery Leader, *Business Facilities*

#24 World's Smartest Cities, *National Geographic*

#7 Lowest International Business Location Costs in the U.S. Northwest/Canada Region, *KPMG LLP*

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