

JUNE 2025 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

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BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT

ON THE
ROAD

RESOURCES
AND EVENTS

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY:



Virginia Beach Hosts German Consul General for International Business Dialogue

On May 15, VBED welcomed Dr. Annette Weerth, Consul General and Legal Adviser from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, for a visit focused on international business collaboration. Joined by honorary German Consul General John D. Padgett of McGuireWoods LLP and representatives from the Hampton Roads Alliance, the group discussed expanding partnerships, supporting German companies in the region and global investment opportunities.

Neptune Shield Awarded \$162,000 EDIP Grant to Expand Business Incubator in Virginia Beach

Virginia Beach Economic Development has awarded a \$162,681 Economic Development Investment Program (EDIP) grant to [Neptune Shield](#), a tech incubator led by former Navy SEAL Nick Rocha. The funding will support the expansion and renovation of Neptune Shield's facility in the Lynnhaven area, near NAS Oceana and NAVSTA Norfolk. The project will expand the Mid-Atlantic Innovation Tech Hub, offering workspace, technical support and networking for U.S. and international startups developing advanced technologies that enhance national security.



Commence Launches a New Era in Healthcare Tech in Virginia Beach

A powerful new chapter in healthcare technology begins with the formation of [Commence](#), a forward-thinking company established through the strategic collaboration of [DOMA Technologies](#), [Livanta](#), and [Advantia Government Services](#). With deep local roots, decades of combined experience and a commitment to innovation, [Commence](#) has a national vision and represents a unified effort that will reimagine federal healthcare solutions. Drawing on the strengths and expertise of each partner, [Commence](#) brings a bold, data-driven and human-centered approach to solving inefficiencies in federal healthcare—delivering smarter solutions and greater value for taxpayers. [Commence](#) is set to become a catalyst for meaningful change in healthcare technology.

Stay connected with [Commence](#) on social media to follow its journey and how it's helping shape the future of federal healthcare.

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ADS Breaks Ground on Major Warehouse Expansion in Virginia Beach

[ADS](#), a key supplier of equipment and logistics for the U.S. military, has begun construction on a 40,000 square-foot expansion of its Virginia Beach warehouse. The upgrade will increase capacity to fulfill large orders, streamline deliveries and military supply chains. The project will improve operations, where employees manage fulfillment, assembling and shipping kits to military clients around the world.

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Virginia Beach Joins Regional Effort to Spotlight Hampton Roads at SelectUSA 2025

Last month, Virginia Beach Economic Development (VBED) proudly joined regional partners in showcasing Hampton Roads at the *2025 SelectUSA Investment Summit* and related *Spin Off* event. The *Spin Off* event, held May 6–9, brought an international delegation representing over four countries and two U.S. states to experience Coastal Virginia, visit key sites and attend The Port of Virginia's *State of the Port* event. VBED, alongside the Hampton Roads Alliance and seven area economic development leaders, built upon momentum from the *Spin Off* event to the main *SelectUSA Conference*, held May 11–14 at National Harbor, MD.

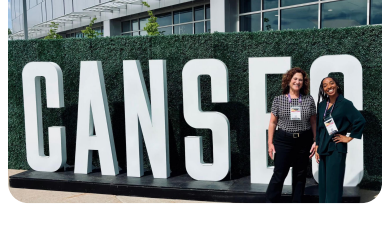
Ventus Energy and RVT Group Join International Incubator in Virginia Beach

[Ventus Energy](#) and [RVT Group](#), both UK-based firms, have opened U.S. offices in Virginia Beach's International Incubator. Ventus Energy specializes in high voltage engineering for offshore wind infrastructure, while RVT Group provides temporary environmental control and health protection solutions for industries including shipbuilding and defense. Their expansion highlights Virginia Beach's growing role as a hub for clean energy and advanced industrial solutions.

Celebrating Progress: Highlights from Virginia Beach Economic Development Week 2025



ON THE ROAD:



Virginia Beach Economic Development Showcases Defense Innovation at CANSEC 2025

The Virginia Beach Department of Economic Development (VBED) participated in CANSEC 2025, Canada's premier defense and security trade show, that took place May 28–29 in Ottawa. As part of its strategic initiatives, VBED aims to promote the city's robust defense and technology sectors, highlighting Virginia Beach as a prime location for international investment and collaboration in aerospace, cybersecurity, and advanced manufacturing.



The HIVE is our business resource center designed to support an innovative and entrepreneurial ecosystem in Virginia Beach. The HIVE took part in several events the past two months focused on supporting small businesses and workforce, including Women in Construction Week, military transition seminar, diversity and equity summit, business pitch event and business accelerator graduation.

For more information about events, including the ongoing activities and resources of the HIVE, read their [newsletter](#) and sign up to receive future newsletters at the link below.

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BUSINESS RESOURCES AND EVENTS:

757 Career Summit Empowers Job Seekers in Virginia Beach

The second *757 Career Summit of 2025* took place on June 4–5 at Naval Air Station Oceana, offering an alternative to the traditional career fair, designed to connect employers with transitioning service members. Maritime and defense employers from the City of Virginia Beach engaged with candidates, aligning military experience with workforce needs. For a calendar of future hiring events, visit the [Hampton Roads Workforce Council](#).

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AI Takes the Factory Floor: Maxbyte Technologies Showcases the Future of Smart Manufacturing

[Maxbyte Technologies](#) hosted a session on the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on manufacturing June 3 at the [Advanced Technology Center](#) in Virginia Beach. The event highlighted cutting-edge AI capabilities through case studies and demonstrations of AI-powered machinery. Attendees participated in strategic discussions with industry experts who offered valuable insights into AI's impact from the boardroom to the shop floor, equipping participants with practical knowledge that will support AI-driven transformation.

VEDP Webinar: Global Trade Insights: Trade Policy and Tariffs Update

Virginia exporters are invited to webinar on June 12 from 10–11 a.m. hosted by [Virginia Economic Development Partnership \(VEDP\)](#), offering key insights into evolving U.S. trade policies and tariffs. Trade expert Nicole Bivens Collinson will unpack the latest developments, forecast upcoming shifts and provide actionable strategies to help businesses adapt and stay competitive in 2025. To register, visit: [Global Trade Insights: Trade Policy and Tariffs Update](#) | [Export Virginia](#)

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VEDP Announces Fall Trade Missions to Global Markets

VEDP invites Virginia businesses to join upcoming trade missions to Latin America, Europe, Australia, and Southeast Asia. Each mission includes a \$2,500 participation fee plus travel.

Coming up soon:

Mexico: Sept. 22–26 | **Register by July 25**

Colombia: Oct. 20–24 | **Register by Aug. 22**

For more information and upcoming missions, visit [VEDP](#).

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Economic Development Investment Program (EDIP) Grants for Qualifying Businesses

The city's [Economic Development Investment Program \(EDIP\)](#) is a discretionary incentive program with cash grants available to assist qualifying companies in growing their business. If you are a new or expanding business in the city, you may be eligible.

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International Incubator Office Space

The [International Incubator](#) is a soft-landing office space designed for international companies planning expansion into the U.S. market. Strategically located in Town Center and adjacent to the Economic Development office, the Incubator provides an ideal environment for growing businesses. [Contact staff](#) to learn more.

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Use Virginia SCAN to Research Available Sites and Properties

For a comprehensive look at available sites and properties in Virginia Beach, visit [Virginia SCAN](#), operated by Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

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