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Thursday, October 30, 2008

AMD signs lease for office space in Luther Forest

The Business Review (Albany)

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Advanced Micro Devices Inc. will occupy 10,000 square feet at the **Saratoga Technology + Energy Park** in Malta while the company finalizes construction details for a \$4.6 billion computer chip fabrication plant.

AMD Fab Technologies US Inc. will join a growing list of tenants in a 105,000-square-foot flex-space building at the STEP, which is located next to the **Luther Forest Technology Campus** where the chip fab will be built.

STEP is a 280-acre park owned by the **New York State Energy Research and Development Authority**. The building where AMD and the other companies are located is owned by The **United Group** of Companies in Troy.

The lease with AMD begins Dec. 1. Twelve people will work in the office initially, a number that will grow to 40.

"Any time you get a 10,000-square-foot tenant in this economy and this market it's significant," United Group President and CEO Michael J. Uccellini said. "In the Albany marketplace that's a big tenant. For that tenant to also be AMD, that's very big."

Travis Bullard, an AMD spokesman, said the company has a two-year lease.

Other tenants in the building include **Lockheed Martin Corp.**, **Starfire Systems, Inc.**, **Building Performance Institute**, **Electrovaya Co.**, and **C9 Corp**. Once AMD moves in there will be about 18,000 square feet of manufacturing space and about 10,000 square feet of office space remaining, Uccellini said.

Construction of the chip fab is expected to begin next year at the Luther Forest Technology Campus.

When completed in 18 months the plant will employ more than 1,400 people and is expected to create thousands of spin-off jobs. The plant will be a joint venture between AMD and **Advanced Technology Investment Co.** of Abu Dhabi.

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