



CATALYST

For Superior Transportation Infrastructure In The I-39 Corridor & Chicago Region

I-39 Logistics Corridor Association... Connecting You to the Information and Resources You Need!

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I-39 Logistics Corridor!

*The I-39 Logistics Corridor is all about helping you connect to the **proximity** vital for **logistics, manufacturing, company headquarters, raw resources and materials, data centers, and industry and business clusters**. We identify site criteria important for the Chicago area, which handles more freight than any other city in the country.*

For more information, please visit the [I-39 Logistics Corridor Website](#).

Rivian Electric Trucks

Normal. **Rivian** has taken over the former Mitsubishi plant in Normal, IL, and is expected to begin taking



orders for its electric trucks with deliveries in June 2021.



The pickup trucks will debut and the Launch Edition, and have a 300-mile range with a \$75,000 sticker price.

An SUV will also be offered. **Rivian** has employed 550 people in Normal, and has a total employment of 3,000 people with facilities in California and Michigan. The goal for the Normal plant is 1,000 jobs by year 2024.

SENATOR INTERNATIONAL to Locate at RFD

Rockford. **SENATOR INTERNATIONAL** has chosen the Chicago Rockford International Airport (**RFD**) as a new destination for the “SAB” SENATOR Atlantic Bridge. The service includes twice weekly transatlantic cargo flights, and began in June.



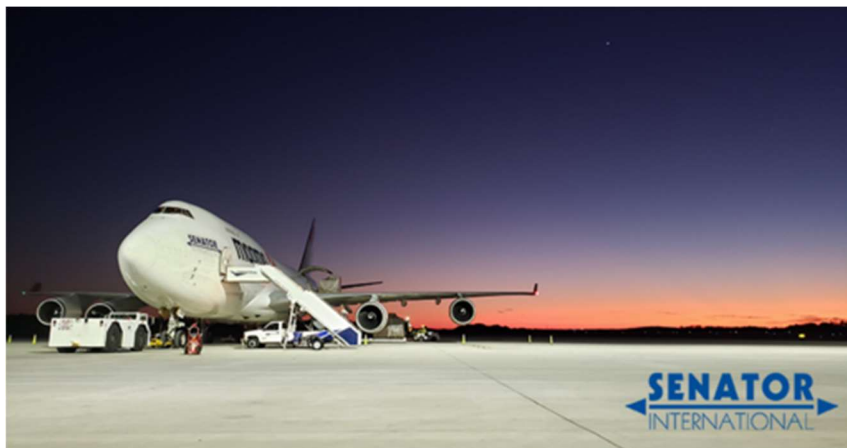
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In October, **RFD** was officially designated as the Midwest Hub for the cargo operator.

Emery Air at **RFD** has been designated to manage the cargo handling operations for **SENATOR**.

RFD has begun construction of a new 90,000 square foot International Cargo Facility which will house **SENATOR**. The new facility is expected to open in June 2021.



Ferrero Locates Two Facilities in the Corridor



Bloomington. The **Ferrero Group** is planning to build a \$75 million expansion project, adding 50 employees on Beich Road near the interchange of I-39, I-74 and I-55. The expanded facility will house a new chocolate manufacturing center.

Ferrero is a confectionary company known for Nutella, Ferrero Rancher, Crunch, Raisinets, Butterfinger, Baby Ruth other globally recognized brands.

DeKalb. **Ferrero** is responsible for construction two new facilities in DeKalb's ChicagoWest Business Park through its **Ferrara Candy Company** subsidiary. The 1.7 million square foot complex includes a 1.2 million square foot distribution facility and a 466,000 square foot packaging center. The distribution complex is expected to be complete in the second quarter of year 2021. The project will bring approximately 500 jobs to DeKalb.





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I-39 member **Krusinski Construction Company** managed the development of the **ChicagoWest Business Park** and is the general contractor for the **Ferrara** distribution complex project. **Trammell Crow** developed the project and CBRE assisted **Ferrara** in the site selection. Site engineering is being managed by I-39 member **Jacob & Hefner Associates, Inc.** Harris Architects is the architect. IDOT assisted road improvements.

Marquis Industrial Park in the IL Valley - I-39/I-80

Hennepin. The **Marquis Industrial Park** is an 1,800-acre site that is ready for development. Various sites are available, with access to the Illinois River for barge loading and unloading. **Marquis Marine** offers tugboat and fleeting services.



Highway access is immediately available to I-39, I-80, via I-180 and IL 71. Access is available to the **Norfolk Southern Railroad**.

The location is served by two natural gas pipelines. Illinois is a deregulated electricity market allowing industrial companies to choose electric suppliers and take advantage of competitive rates.

The adjoining use is **Marquis Energy**, Illinois's largest ethanol

production facility that has been operating on the adjoining land since year 2008, demonstrating the strategic and tactical intermodal location advantages of the industrial park site. The company is also producing hand sanitizer.

The website for the project: <https://www.marquisindustrialpark.com>.

For development information, contact: Danielle Anderson, Project Manager
11953 Prairie Industrial Parkway, Hennepin, IL 61327, phone: Office: 815-925-7300
Mobile: 815-760-0950. Email: danielleanderson@marquisindustrialpark.com

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Rochelle Railroad Transload - Dual Rail Access

The **Rochelle Transload Center (RTC)** is a rail-truck transload site that can accommodate 60 cars on two tracks. This site is capable of handling shipments including dry bulk, liquid bulk, dimensional, oversize, machinery, metals and other commodities and products.

The **Rochelle Transload Center (RTC)** is easily accessible to all types of industries in the Midwest who seek a highly flexible, uncongested, customer service-oriented rail and truck transloading operation. A turn-key option that offers door to door delivery to and from the Transloading Center is also available.



The **City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR)** is a “dual served” short line railroad that provides equal access to both the main lines of the **BNSF Railway (BNSF)** and **Union Pacific Railroad (UP)**. The **CIR** is owned by the City of Rochelle and the system consists of three interchange rail yards, two transloading yards and a total of twelve miles of track.

The **CIR** is capable of handling unit trains which can be stored and switched daily in and out of Rochelle. **Burlington Junction Railway** operates the **CIR**, providing interchange, switching and transloading services for 16 industries with over 6 million sq. ft. of industrial space and switching over 13,000 railcars per year.



For Rochelle economic development and Rochelle railroad services, go to Rochelle's website:

<https://www.excelinrochelle.com/content/business-environment/city-of-rochelle-railroad.html>

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Rockford Area Development Activity

The **Spring Creek Development Group** is now represented by **Cushman & Wakefield's O'Hare office**, lead by Al Caruana, Britt Casey, Michael Nelligan, and Jeff Matella. During the past couple years, **Siffron**, **Meridian**, and **Natural Choice** have built new facilities in the business park. 67 acres is available with full access and utilities at the Loves Park Riverside Drive interchange with I-39 and I-90.

Also new in the neighborhood is a **Costco**, **Mercy Health's Javon Bea Hospital**, and several other healthcare and hospitality businesses that make the east side of Rockford an attractive business location.



Facebook Data Center - DeKalb

Facebook has begun construction of a 907,000 square foot data center on a 505-acre site near the DeKalb Peace Road interchange with I-88. The site offers the capability of extensive expansion of **Facebook's** footprint as the demand for data center capabilities increase in the future. Current investment in the project is estimated at \$800 million. According to Facebook, DeKalb was chosen as the site for its newest data center site due to its access to renewable energy, a strong talent pool, higher education institutions, community partners and strong infrastructure.

The facility will benefit from State and County enterprise zone and data center program incentives, according to the DeKalb County EDC. A data center incentive passed into law in 2019 with bipartisan support is designed to attract data center development, as well as create construction and professional jobs and sparking community investment.



Facebook is partnering with the City of DeKalb, the Kishwaukee Water Reclamation District, and **Krusinski Construction Company** to help design, build and provide support for infrastructure in the area.

The project will likely employ 1,200 people in the construction of the project. When the facility is complete in 2022, plans are to hire approximately 100 people to operate the facility. **Facebook** indicated that the DeKalb project is its 16th data center and will be among the most advanced, energy- and water-efficient data center facilities in the world. The project had been known as Project Ventus, and was assisted by Jerry Krusinski, a principal with the neighboring **ChicagoWest Business Park**.

Syngenta Seeds - DeKalb County

Malta. **Syngenta Seeds LLC** plans to build an 84,000 square foot R&D Innovation and Customer Experience Center on an 88-acre site along IL Highway 38. The facility will employ 100 persons when completed. Construction is planned to begin in early 2021.



According to the Syngenta's press release, "The site was selected for its location, soil type and accessibility, and will provide facilities for large-scale events and engagement with growers on corn and soybean technology and innovation."

"A key component of the site will be highlighting the future of agriculture via displays and application of Syngenta digital technologies including virtual reality, precision agriculture, drone and satellite imaging, and data analytics," according to Syngenta's zoning application narrative.



The location is in the vicinity of Kishwaukee College and close to both DeKalb and Northern Illinois University. The company plans to surround the building with research fields that will help showcase the plants that **Syngenta** is developing at the facility.

Bright Farms - Rochelle

Rochelle. **Bright Farms** announced that it is increasing production by 40%, or one (1) more acre by adding more hydroponic ponds to its four (4) acre Rochelle facility. Pandemic driven demand has increased the demand for locally grown greens. The Rochelle facility supplies 1,000,000 pounds of lettuce, spinach, arugula, basil, and other greens.



Belvidere Rock Valley College Advanced Technology Center (ATC) Coming Soon to Boone County

In their ongoing commitment to bring opportunities to the Northern Illinois Region, **Rock Valley College** is set to start the buildout of their new **ATC**, in Belvidere Illinois.

Starting in January 2021, **Rock Valley College** will begin to transform the former Belvidere Shopko building into 77,000 ft² of innovative, hands-on learning space. This facility will provide the workforce with **high-demand and skilled labor and talent** for employers in Northern Illinois.

Among the programs to be offered at the new **ATC** are mechatronics, welding, supply chain & logistics, CNC machining, cold forming, and metrology lab. Potential future programs could be automotive and continuous improvement & LEAN manufacturing.

Completion of the **ATC** is scheduled for June 2021, with classes beginning in August 2021.





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OmniTrax Has Rail Ready Sites - Rockford & Peru

Peru and Rockford. The regional railroad, **OmniTrax**, operating locally as **Illinois Railway LLC** has launched a rail ready sites feature on its economic development web site. Four sites in Rockford and 6 sites in Peru are featured. **Illinois Railway** has connections to the **BNSF**, **UP**, and **CSX** rail lines that serve the I-39 Logistics Corridor.

Go to the website link:

<https://omnitrax.com/services/industrial-development/illinois-railway-llc/>

Happy New Year

from the Partners of the I-39 Logistics Corridor. For membership and other inquires, see our contact information below.

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