

Your decision to consider North Dakota for your next business location places you among a growing list of smart companies like Bobcat, Microsoft, Archer Daniels Midland and MDU Resources who recognize the competitive advantages of growing their operations in North Dakota. For example, you will find:

- Easy access to government leaders and elected officials (scout's honor)
- The cost of doing business is ranked #49 (#49 is good in the 2005 Milken Institute study)
- One of only three states to increase manufacturing jobs from 2000-2004
- The safest state in the nation
- One of the shortest commutes in the nation
- Reliable, affordable energy in a state that already exports 70% of the electricity it produces (we will save some for you)

Along with the country's lowest workers compensation premium rates, companies find that North Dakota offers "economic thoroughbreds: educated young people with the farmers' work ethic," according to *USA Today*. Consider North Dakota and you capitalize on our expertise – microelectronics including RFID, coatings, soft and hard, nanocomposite-based biomaterials, high-performance computing, UAV technology and next-generation-biotechnology...for starters.

We know it takes more than great rankings and great promises to make your business profitable. That's why we build strong relationships with our partners to ensure success for all involved. We want to discuss the right opportunity for you in North Dakota. Plan now to meet with our business development experts during the 2006 Live Xchange program. And in the meantime, feel free to visit www.growingnd.com to learn why business is just easier and more profitable in North Dakota.