

CRITICAL RESOURCE

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION

LOCAL INNOVATION

WATER INNOVATION

CLUSTER PROFILE FORT COLLINS, CO



Announcing the formation of a new, exciting industry cluster focused on water-related issues and innovation! The future of water safety, water supply and water management is a global issue; Fort Collins area companies, Colorado State University and industry partners around the state are ready to take on water challenges and discover solutions that are best for the planet, for business and our societies.

The newly organized industry cluster unites these companies and organizations as they contribute to the economic vitality of our area and beyond.

WATER INNOVATION



By 2050 a third of the people on Earth may lack a clean, secure source of water.

2.5 percent of all water on Earth is freshwater. About two-thirds of that is frozen.¹

The facts and figures of water on Earth fill journals and textbooks. Humans have an insatiable need for fresh, clean water—for agriculture, for consumption, for manufacturing. Scientists, researchers and business people are creating innovative ways for dealing with many of these issues including how to desalinate water on an affordable, large scale; how to get water supplies closer to people’s homes; how to use less water in irrigation and agriculture; and more. The problems are fixable for the most part, yet there’s a sense of urgency to develop solutions in a timely way, before it’s too late for some communities.

WHY HERE? WHY NOW?

Businesses and research institutions in Fort Collins are on the leading edge of solving some of water’s most challenging problems. The City of Fort Collins, along with a variety of private sector companies and Colorado State University, formed the Colorado Water Innovation Cluster (CWIC) to leverage expertise in the area and collaborate on regional and global water issues. Combined with initiatives already underway in clean energy, bioscience and location-based decision support systems, the CWIC will allow regional stakeholders to collaboratively design and showcase infrastructure solutions, which in many cases are much larger and have far more impact than any stakeholder could achieve on their own.

¹National Geographic magazine, April 2010

STRENGTHS

- Headwater state
- Abilities of Water Innovation Cluster members to produce long-term solutions to global water issues.
- Hydraulic engineering programs at CSU which attract international students for implementation in their home countries

SAMPLE COMPANIES

- Aqua Engineering, Inc.
- Hach
- In Situ, Inc.
- OptiEnz
- Regenis
- Riverside Technology, Inc.
- Rubicon
- Stewart Environmental
- Symbios

ENRICHING THE ECONOMY

36 Water Innovation businesses employ more than 1425 people.

A main focus of the Water Innovation Cluster is to create initiatives that highlight the region’s capabilities, involve the innovative use of technologies and contribute to the economic vitality of the community.

COLLABORATION & RESOURCES

Colorado Water Institute

Colorado State University, the founding member of the first North American United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Center for Integrated Water Resources Management

GRANTS AND RESEARCH FUNDING

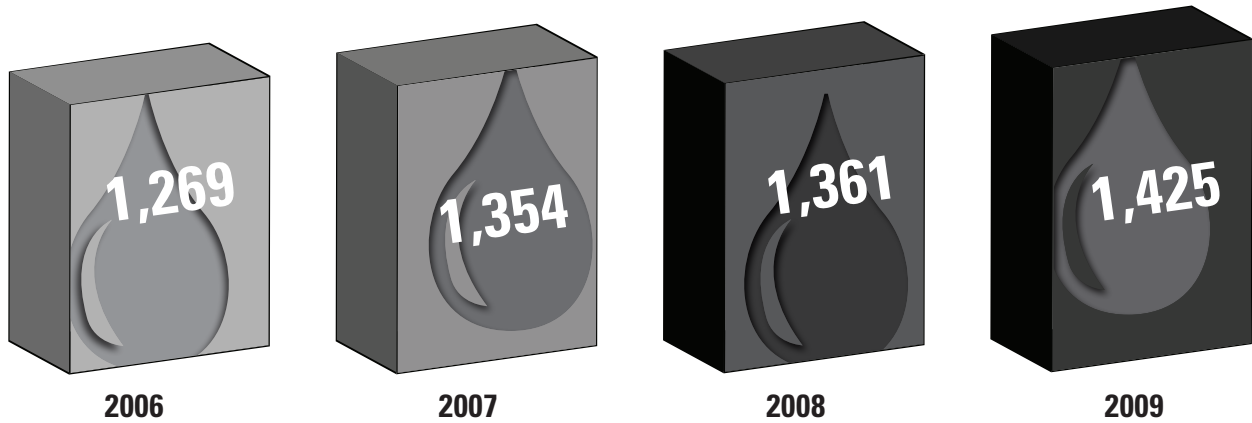
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	National Science Foundation
Urban Drainage and Flood Control District	Office of Naval Research

WATER INNOVATION

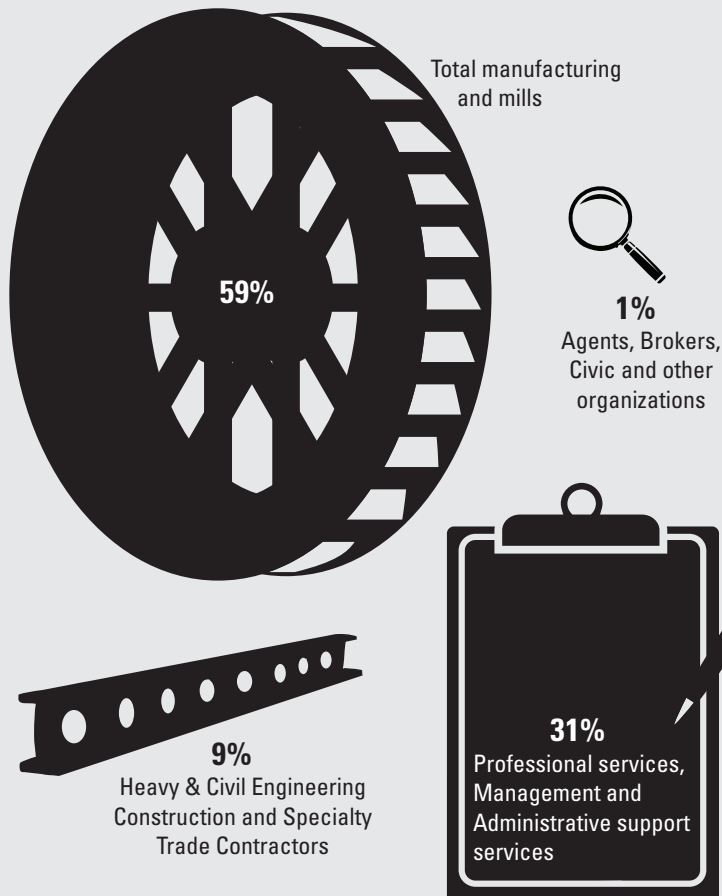


EMPLOYMENT TREND

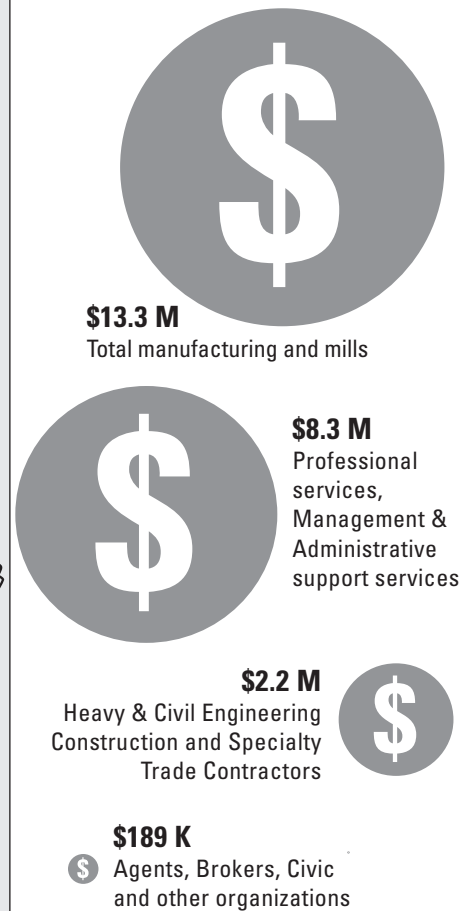
number of employees



2009 EMPLOYMENT COMPOSITION



2009 Q2 EARNINGS





WHAT'S NEW

1. Rubicon Systems, a water engineering and technology company relocated its headquarters to Fort Collins, quadrupling its space and ability to hire new staff.
2. A water-saving anaerobic digester is in development at CSU. Sybil Sharvelle, Assistant Professor of Engineering, has created an innovative process that uses less water than conventional systems. The process will make it more feasible for use at feedlots and dairies across the western states.
3. John Wesley Powell Center for Analysis and Synthesis, a new think-tank established on the CSU campus on Centre Avenue, will help study how to balance mining and energy development with environmental protection. Partners in the think-tank include the U.S. Geological Survey scientists, various governmental agencies and academia.
4. CSU awarded \$1.2 million in grants to address water quality protection and water conservation issues, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2009-2010.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Following your passions and pursuing your career don't have to be mutually exclusive.

- **One of the top six 'Smarter Cities' for Energy:** Natural Resources Defense Council, (population 100,000-249,999) - August 2010
- **Ranked 6th Best Place to Live in the Nation:** *Money Magazine* - July 2010
- **One of the Most Underrated Cities in the West:** *Life.com* - June 2010
- **One of the Greatest Places to Live in the West:** *American Cowboy* magazine - April 2010
- **Ranked 3rd Best State for Business, Colorado,** *CNBC* April 2010
- **Ranked 4th Best Place for Business and Careers,** *Forbes.com* March 2010
- **Ranked 1st Best Place to Live and Work for Young Professionals (pop. 100,000-200,000),** Next Generation Consulting - March 2009

CONTACTS

For more information on Water Innovation in Fort Collins

Forbes Guthrie, co-chair, Colorado Water Innovation Cluster, 970.226.5500,
forbes.guthrie@stewartenv.com

Contact the City of Fort Collins for questions on retention, expansion, incubation or relocation

Josh Birks, Economic Advisor, City of Fort Collins, 970.221.6324, jbirks@fcgov.com

Colorado Water Innovation Cluster co-waterinnovation.com

Doing business in Fort Collins fcgov.com/business

Community information ftcollins.com

Fort Collins Cluster performance report available on fcgov.com/business/target-industries.php