

HARDWARE

CLUSTER PROFILE | FORT COLLINS, CO

The Hardware Cluster is part of Fort Collins' larger technology sector. Companies in this cluster are involved in the research, design, and production of computers, computer storage devices, computer peripherals, and other related equipment. This sector is one of the most established sectors in Fort Collins, with Hewlett Packard opening a facility in 1978. Now, Hewlett Packard, Intel, Avago, AMD, and Texas Instruments all conduct research and development activities in their Fort Collins locations. This private-sector research expertise combined with the talent from Colorado State University makes Fort Collins a computer hardware innovation hub.



The City of Fort Collins is an active supporter of the Hardware Cluster through direct business assistance and manufacturing use tax rebates. In the past, the city has supported the expansion of Avago and HP through direct business assistance in the form of property tax rebates. However, in 2013, there were no new agreements in this sector.

In 2013, the city provided manufacturing use tax rebates of \$156,614. This rebate supported Avago's purchase of \$15.7 million in manufacturing equipment. Thus, for every \$1 the City investment in the cluster, \$100 were invested by the private sector.

2013 NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- **AVAGO** announced that they entered into an agreement to buy **LSI**. Both companies are headquartered in San Jose, CA and have manufacturing operations in Fort Collins.
- In the fall of 2013, **HP** launched its new series of "Z" workstations which were designed in Fort Collins. The series included HP's new mobile workstations – the ZBooks.
- **AVAGO** planned a \$19 million expansion that will add more than 190,000 square feet to their Fort Collins footprint and 100 jobs

SPECIALTIES: CHIP DESIGN • DATA STORAGE • SYSTEMS ON A CHIP • RF I/C & MICROWAVES • REMOTE SENSING •

RESOURCES & ASSETS

RESEARCH

- ♦ CSU – Information Science & Technology Center
- ♦ CSU – Extreme Ultraviolet Science and Technology Center
- ♦ Intel's Fort Collins Design Center
- ♦ HP (R&D and Design)
- ♦ AMD (R&D and Design)
- ♦ Avago (R&D and Design)
- ♦ Texas Instruments (R&D and Design)

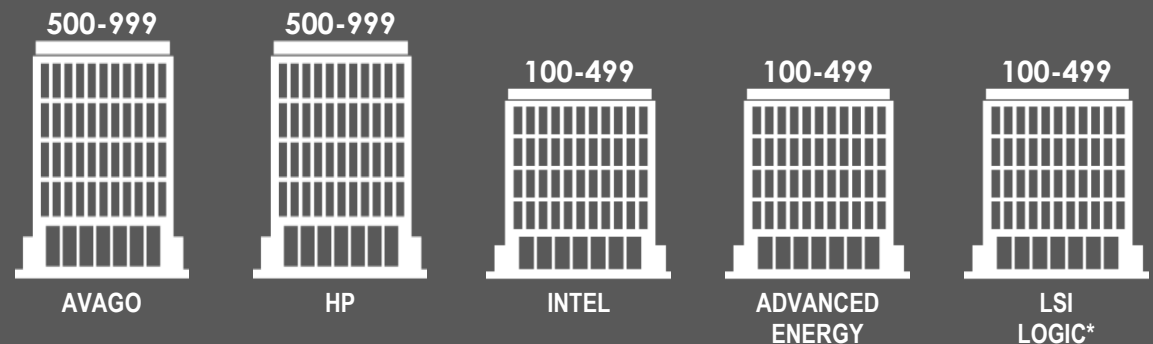
INCUBATION & COMMERCIALIZATION

- ♦ CSU Ventures
- ♦ Rocky Mountain Innosphere

FUNDING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ♦ NoCo Capital

TOP 5 EMPLOYERS (BY NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES)



Source: QCEW

* LSI is now part of Avago.

BY THE NUMBERS

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013:

OF FIRMS



17

EMPLOYMENT



2,699

EMPLOYMENT
CHANGE 2012-13



-17

EARNINGS PER
WORKER



\$144,479

PRIVATE \$ TO CITY \$
INVESTED



\$100

Source: QCEW, City of Fort Collins

INNOVATION

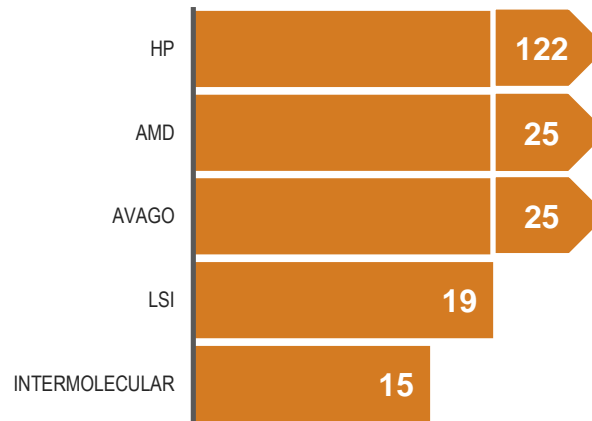
The Hardware Cluster is one of the most prolific producers of intellectual property in Fort Collins. With five Fortune 500 companies conducting their R&D and design work in the region and a major research university with a strong engineering program, it is no wonder.

The 242 patents granted covered a wide range of topics from cryptology to heat exchange. The largest number of patents granted over the 2013 time frame was for inventions related to electrical computers and digital processing systems, in particular memory, multicomputer data transferring, and support. Computer graphics processing and active solid-state devices were other areas of focus.

PATENTS AWARDED 2013



Top Patent Producers 2013



Note: Patent Producers are identified based on the assignee name.

Source: US Patent Office

BUSINESS FORMATION & EXPANSION

INCUBATION & ACCELERATION

Companies	n/a
Employees	n/a
Venture Capital Raised	n/a
City Investment	n/a

Source: Rocky Mountain Innosphere

EXPANSION & RELOCATION:

Companies	1
New Jobs	n/a
Capital Investment	\$15.7 million
City Investment	\$156,614

Source: City of Fort Collins



Hewlett-Packard has been foundational to the hardware cluster since opening up its Fort Collins facility in 1978. The presence of HP in Fort Collins helped attract other technology companies to the area and transform the city into a high-tech hub.

Fort Collins continues to be instrumental in HP's corporate strategy as the home of its high performing workstation division. In 2011, HP opened a research facility focused on sustainable data center technology. In 2014, HP announced that it will split into two companies – one that focuses on servers, software and cloud technology and one that focuses on computers and printers. With this change, Fort Collins and HP's relationship will continue to evolve.

