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Hacienda-based businesses active in year's first half

Diageo offering free, public 'virtual tour' of famous Guinness Storehouse

by Jeb Bing

Business growth, new product applications and a unique virtual tour opportunity for the public topped a list of business activities in recent months in Hacienda, a Pleasanton business park.

Tenant activity in the park also has seen growth with more than a dozen new companies settling into Hacienda since the beginning of the year.

"Tenant activity in Hacienda has been very good so far this year" said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "Even with a slight increase in vacancy this last month, Hacienda's occupancy has increased by nearly two percentage points since the end of last year. Additional activity is expected before the end of the year."

Among major business activities is a chance for the public to "see" the Guinness & Famous distilleries at St. James' Gate in Dublin, Ireland.

Diageo, a consumer goods company with a portfolio of world-famous drinks brands, has partnered with Google's Business View to offer a free virtual tour that allows people to see inside the walls of the famous Guinness Storehouse and four other distilleries, the number one tourist attraction in Ireland. The tour includes all seven floors of the massive building, including the top-floor Gravity Bar, the highest bar in Dublin.

"People travel from all over the world to the Guinness Storehouse in Dublin and to our distilleries in Scotland to learn about the heritage and provenance of their favorite brands," said Venky Balakrishnan, Diageo's global vice president of digital innovation. "Google Business View brings the immersive experience of visiting these famous landmarks to people, regardless of where they are in the world."

To learn more about Diageo at diageo.com, use Google to search for virtual tours of Guinness Storehouse and four single-malt scotch whiskey distilleries in Scotland: Cardhu, the Singleton of Glen Ord, Talisker and Lagavulin.

Diageo has its Pleasanton offices at 4695 Chabot Drive.

In another Hacienda business development, Oracle has released a variety of big data solutions that simplify information access and discovery, enabling customers to turn raw data into usable information quickly.

Oracle Big Data Discovery, Oracle GoldenGate for Big Data, Oracle Big Data SQL 1.1, and Oracle NoSQL Database 3.2.5 further Oracle's vision to enable Hadoop, NoSQL, and SQL technologies to work together and be deployed securely in any model, whether public cloud, private cloud or an on-premises infrastructure.

"Data is a new kind of capital and enterprises must invest their data capital strategically to create the best return," said Neil Mendelson, vice president of big data at Oracle. "Oracle gives customers an integrated platform that helps simplify access to all their data, discover new insights, predict outcomes in real time, and keep all their data governed and secure."

Another Hacienda company, Plex Systems, a software company at 4305 Hacienda Drive, announced that its unique manufacturing management software will be used by the Accuride Corporation to manage its financials and supply chain systems. Indiana-based Accuride is a supplier of components to the North American commercial vehicle industry, such as school buses, big rigs and fire trucks.

"Accuride manufactures many of the same components at more than one production facility, but Plex now will enable us to easily view real-time production and business information at the enterprise level," said Paul Wright, Accuride's IT director.

"This portfolio view of our operations that the Plex applications provide will unlock a host of efficiencies, such as fulfilling orders based on inventory and proximity to the end-customer and improved forecasting across all of Accuride," he added.

Paxson said Hacienda has recently welcomed new tenants to the park. They include:

Dr. Alex Anastasiou, a provider of adolescent and adult psychiatry, with an office at 5890 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 215.

Ananda Bhavan, a new restaurant featuring authentic South Indian cuisine, at 4515 Rosewood Drive, Suite 700.

Stanford Children's Health Bayside Medical Group, a provider of health services for children, at 5890 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 212.

Solid Personnel, a recruiting and staffing firm, at 5933 Coronado Lane, Suite 201.

Leisure Sports, designers, developers, owners and managers of high-end fitness resorts, at 4670 Willow Road, Suite 100.

Hacienda is the largest development of its kind in Northern California with more than 10 million square feet of existing mixed-use space occupied by some 660 companies that locally employ approximately 19,000 people.