

Economic and Business Development

Business Outreach, Retention, and Expansion Program

April 10, 2014

Goal of Discussion Today

- ✓ Raise awareness of ComEd's program with CMAP committee and staff
- ✓ Identify potential Technical Assistance support opportunities
- Discuss status of potential for Statewide retention strategy



Objectives of ComEd's Program

- ✓ Retain electric load on the ComEd system
- ✓ Retain jobs and investment in ComEd municipalities
- ✓ Identify expansion opportunities with existing businesses
- ✓ Better understand business issues facing ComEd's large customers
- ✓ Ensure ComEd leadership awareness of potential at-risk customers
- Enhance reputation with customers, elected officials and other key stakeholders



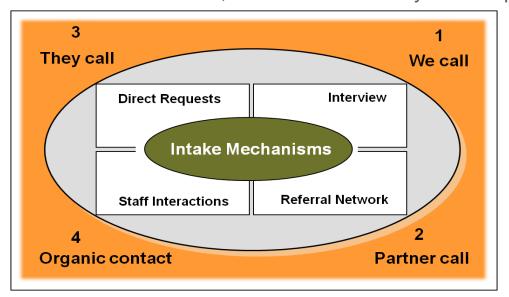
Importance of Business Retention and Expansion

- ✓ Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) is a key component of an effective economic development organization since 75% of new jobs come from existing businesses
- ✓ Strategic intent of ComEd's program offering
 - Various efforts intended to ensure existing businesses in Northern Illinois remain economically viable while retaining electrical load, jobs, and investment in ComEd communities
- ✓ ComEd's Role in supporting regional and local BRE initiatives.
 - Provide a tool to development partners and municipalities that aids in the process of identifying business issues and concerns pertaining to the local economy and correcting those that negatively impact the business climate

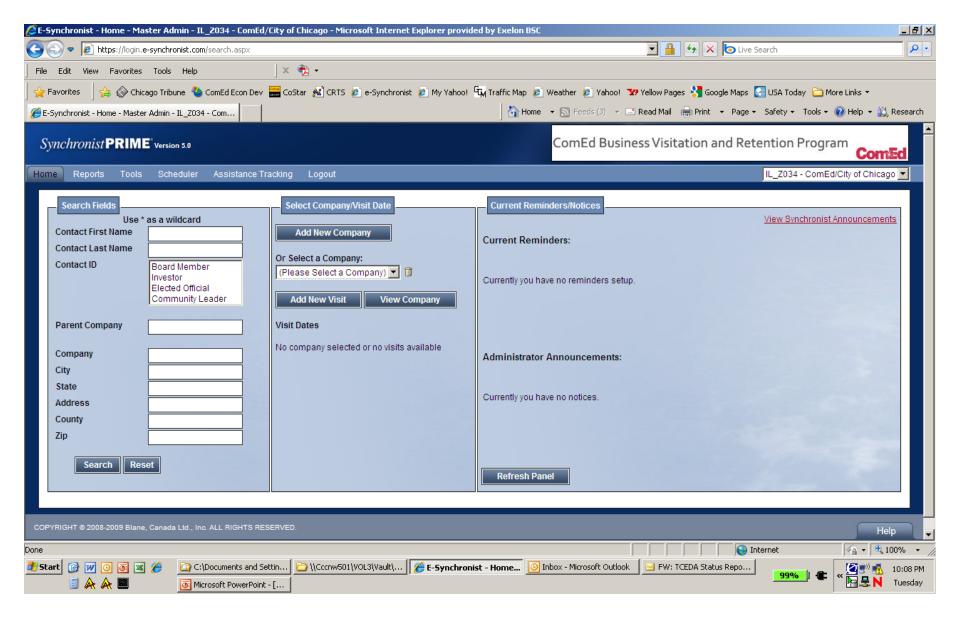


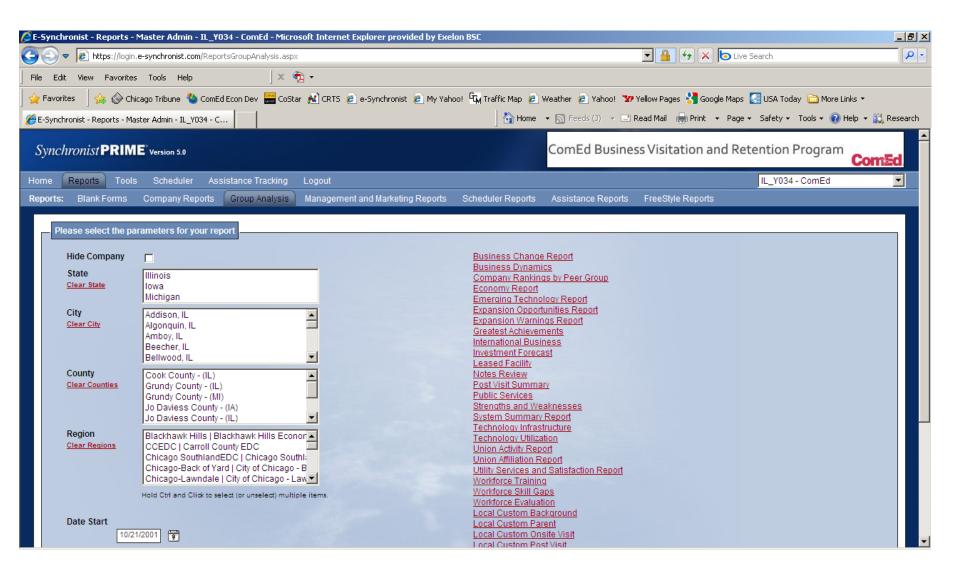
Synchronist - ComEd's Retention Platform

- ✓ ComEd owns a master license for the Synchronist Business Information System, a complete off the shelf product allowing for:
 - Standardized survey form for ease of data collection
 - Web-based database system for data entry, analysis, and reporting
 - Calculation of value, risk, growth potential, and satisfaction ratings for each business interviewed
- ✓ Benefits of partnering with ComEd for municipalities and E.D. organizations
 - Immediate start-up capabilities with proven system
 - Free service, no out of pocket expense
 - Or discounted purchase price option for those interested in direct system access
- ✓ Program partners typically conduct face-to-face interviews using local municipal staff and area business leaders; ComEd attends only a small percentage of visits









Product/Service											
1.	. What is your company's greatest achievement in the last three (3) years?							DNA/K DGJ			
_											
2.	2. Where is the company's primary product/service in its life cycle? □ Emerging □ Maturing □ Growing □ Declining							□_Maturing.		DNA/K Dol	
									₩30		
3.	Has the company introduced new products/services/capabilities in the last five Yes No. 100								~No	DNA/K DGJ	
4.	Are new products/services anticipated in the next two years?									VK DGJ	
5.	As a percent of sales, how much does the company spend on R&D?						x-6 x	DNA/K DCI			
	☐ Under 3% ☐ _ Over 6%										
	As a percentage, approximately how is the R&D budget divided New product development Product improvement(s)								—¾ DNA⁄K ¾ Dcl		
	among: Product improvement(s) Production improvement(s)							- %	450		
	Where is the R&D facility located?										
Pro	duct/Service Notes										
Ma	rket										
6.	Is the company's primary market:	□ Loca	I □ Region:	al [J.W	ation	al 🗆	Intern	ational	DNA	VK DGI
7.	Are total company sales:		□ Increasi	ing		Stab	le 🗆	_Deci	reasing	DNA	VK DGJ
8. Is the market share of the company's key product(s): Increasing Stable Decreasing DNAK [VK DGI			
	#changing, please explain:										

 $DNA/K = Does not apply/lmow, |D_G| = Decline$







W	orkforce										
		Low	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	High	
27.	How do you rate the availability of workers in this	areα								DNAK	<u>R</u> ø
28. How do you rate the quality of workforce in this area:										DNAK	<u>R</u> ø
29. How do you rate the stability of workforce in this area:										DNAK	<u>D</u> øl
As compared to other company facilities, how would you rate productivity in this facility:		ld yourate								DNAK	<u>R</u> øl
31.	. Is the company experiencing recruitment problems with any employee positions or skills:						DNAK	<u>D</u> øl			
	If yes, what problems, positions, skills?										_
											_
32.	Is the number of unfilled positions:		Incres	asing	□_St@	ble C] Decr	reasing		DNAK	<u>D.gl</u>
	Estimated number of unfilled positions today: _		_								
	Approximately when will these jobs be filled? _		(w	D/XX)							
33.	Have you experienced or do you anticipate any sigworkforce?	gnificant change	es in th	e make	-up of y	our/		Yes □] No	DNAK	Del
	If yes, how did/will you deal with this change?									-	_
24	0									I	
	Are primary recruitment problems limited to:							□Indus		DNAK	****
35.	Is company investment in employee training:	☐ Increasing] Stable		ecrea:		☐ Nor		DNAK	***
	If investing in employee training, what percents	age of the traini	ng bud	get is fo	or:	New	job ski	lls train	ing _		_%
								iciency training9			
	Remedial skill training						_%				
Wa	rkforce Notes										



2012 Voice of the Customer Executive Summary Report

The Rockford Area Economic Development Council Survey Population meets with more than 100 local employers every year to engage the business community in comprehensive, detailed conversations about the business climate and economic landscape of the Rockford Region. These structured, in-person discussions are called the Voice of the Customer (VOC) Survey. VOCs are designed to answer several important questions:

- ⇒ What are the perceived competitive strengths of our region for doing business?
- ⇒ What steps can the community take to help our businesses better compete globally?
- ⇒ What are the perceived barriers to growth and expansion for local businesses?

By taking the time to relay their insights, survey participants provide input for initiatives that:

- ⇒ develop targeted community growth plans
- ⇒ prioritize improvement opportunities
- ⇒ identify where resources and advocacy for future infrastructure and development should be allocated

2012 marks the ninth year of the VOC visitation program translating into more than 700 visits to-date. This report will provide an overview of the 2012 VOC survey results including possible approaches to overcoming common potential barriers to growth identified through the survey.



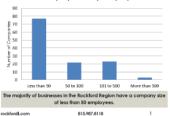
The vast majority of Voice of the Customer participants are primary employers, businesses that can sell goods and services outside of our region, creating wealth through an in-flow of new dollars.

Economic Development in a Nutshell



A total of 125 businesses participated in the 2012 VOC. These companies represent more than 12,400 employees in our region (7% of the workforce).

2012 Survey Population by Company Size



Authored By: Valerie VIk

Grundy EDC Communicat

July 2005

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Grundy Economic Development Council

2005 Business Retention & Expansion Report

Grundy County, Illinois **Executive Summary**

ons Coordinator

Business Retention Report

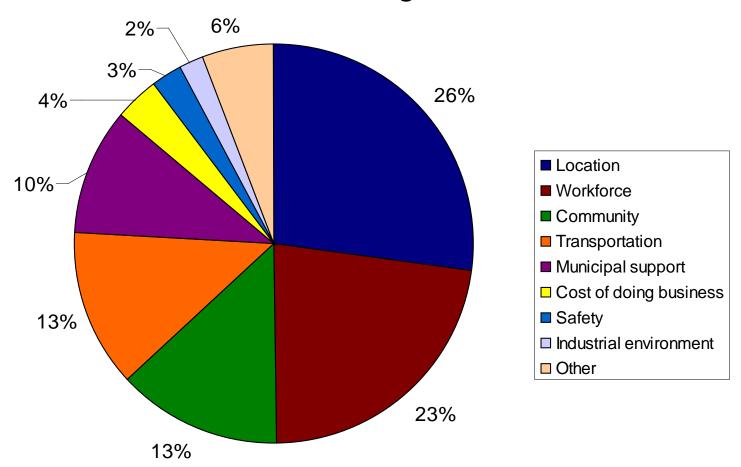
Will County, Illinois **Executive Summary**







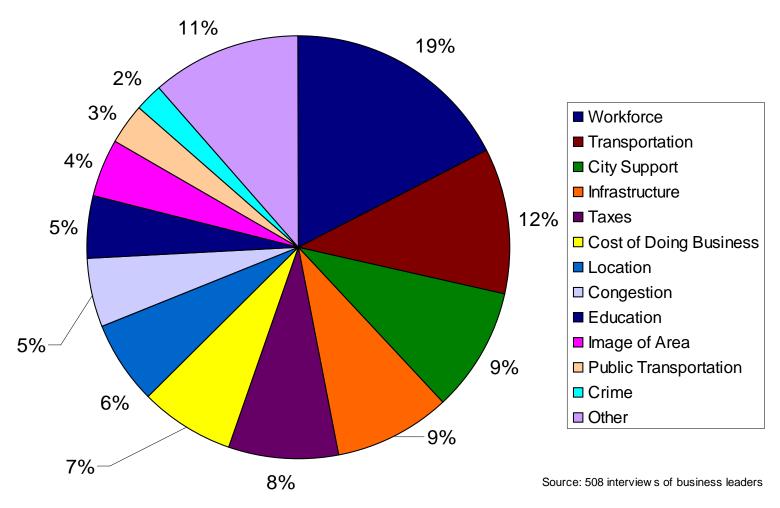
Northern Illinois Strengths



Source: 508 interviews of business leaders

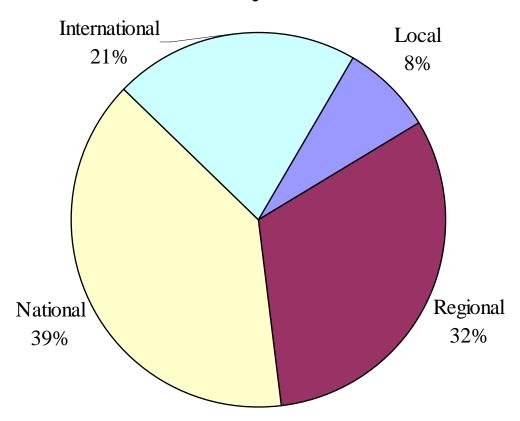


Northern Illinois Weaknesses





Primary Market





Planned Expansions			
Number of Companies	64		
Percent of Companies	48%		
Total SF Planned	3,022,310		
Total Jobs Planned	2,378		
Total Investment Planned	\$1,766,600,000		
Total SF Existing	8,617,526	359	6 Increase
Total Jobs Existing	7,419	329	% Increase

• Existing facility size and employment is potentially at risk if the company expands at a different location other than present facility!!

