



**CHEST PAIN FAST LANE**  
CLICK HERE



Monday, February 15, 2010

Search:

CHARLESTON REGIONAL  
**BUSINESS JOURNAL**

GO

- [HOME](#)
- [NEWS](#)
  - [COMMUNITY](#)
    - [SUBSCRIPTIONS](#)
    - [EVENTS](#)
      - [JOBS](#)
      - [RESOURCES](#)
      -

- [Contact Us](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Need Help?](#)
- [Got News?](#)

[ADVERTISE](#)

- [RSS](#)




**IT Solutions for Your Business**

[ShareThis](#)

# Columbia counterpart to SCRA MUSC Innovation Center breaks ground



Staff Report

*Published Feb. 15, 2010*

Two months after the grand opening of the SCRA MUSC Innovation Center in Charleston, ground has been broken on a similar facility in Columbia. The new [SCRA USC Innovation Center](#), the second of three planned by the S.C. Research Authority, is slated to open in June.

The Greenville-based data center Immedion will be the first tenant in the new SCRA USC facility. Immedion, which recently contracted with the city of Charleston for data services, says it is opening the new operation in Columbia to position itself for growth.

**Previous coverage:**

[SCRA MUSC Innovation Center has grand opening](#)  
[Charleston chooses Greenville-based Immedion](#)



The SCRA USC Innovation Center (*top*) is a partnership among the [S.C. Research Authority](#), the [University of South Carolina](#) and the [city of Columbia](#). The SCRA MUSC Innovation Center (*center*), which is in cooperation with the Medical University of South Carolina, held its grand opening in December. And the third facility, the Clemson SCRA Research and Innovation Center (*bottom*), is planned to be in Anderson near the Clemson Advanced Materials Center.



With the centers, SCRA is fulfilling legislative mandates identified in the Innovation Centers Act focused on the commercialization of new knowledge-based discoveries. Since SCRA is self-supporting, the facilities are being funded through its retained earnings and balance sheet, and no S.C. taxpayer money is being used to provide the facilities.

and the creative ideas that come out of the university

“With the addition of this USC/SCRA Innovation Center, we are achieving part of our Innovista vision — that of nurturing the research and the creative ideas that come out of the university into commercialization and small-company growth,” said USC President Harris Pastides.



Bill Mahoney, CEO of SCRA, said, “This facility will be a technology-based cornerstone to serve startup companies with intellectual property coming out of USC as well as the private sector.”

hire up to 15 people.

Groundbreaking on the 73,000-square-foot facility was held Friday. Immedion plans to expand into 5,000 square feet of that space and

“Locating our second data center in the Innovation Center will better enable us to provide services to businesses in the Midlands as well as throughout the state of South Carolina,” said CEO Frank Mobley.

Immedion currently has more than 75 customers, ranging from small startup companies with one or two employees to major manufacturing, health care, legal and financial services companies. Most are within a 45-mile radius of the data center, but Immedion also hosts customers in Rock Hill, Florence, Charleston and Columbia and in western North Carolina.

Wachovia is providing financing for the SCRA USC Innovation Center. The architectural and engineering design for the new facility was provided by the Garvin Design Group, and Mashburn Construction serves as the general contractor for the building restoration.

Do you give this article a thumbs up? [Yes](#)

