

PHOTO: GERALD SCOTT

Mike Bocek, director of Facilities at BAE Systems, makes a point about the spaciousness built into the supplier's new headquarters building along Van Dyke in Sterling Heights.

## BAE Systems Completes Building of Its 81-Acre Sterling Heights Campus

by Gerald Scott  
News Dept.

Thanks to BAE Systems and its long-term growth and development, its new home in Sterling Heights has become a benchmark for local industrial development.

This is notable because the 81-acre site was previously home to a TRW parts plant, but one that had been sitting idle for years and years.

Thus, the former TRW site, now home to BAE, was nonetheless one of the most desirable industrial locations (west side of Van Dyke between 14 and 15 Mile Roads) in all of Macomb County south of Hall Road.

Last week, BAE cut the ribbon on its new four-story administration and engineering center, the one seen closest to Van Dyke Ave. and dubbed "Noah's Ark" by the locals, and it was a cause for celebration all the way around.

"BAE Systems investment in Michigan is yet more evidence of how important our state's strengths in engineering, research and development and manufacturing have become to our national security," said U.S. Sen. Carl Levin.

"The important work BAE Systems will do at this new facility means its high-quality Michigan workforce can accomplish the important job of helping make our troops safer and helping them carry out their vital missions."

Indeed, the opening of the admin building marks the completion of BAE's three-year expansion project in

Sterling Heights, one that includes the following highlights:

- A secure conference center for employee and customer meetings with a presentation media wall;
- A multi-purpose room configurable for classroom style presentations or working groups with internal cameras to broadcast presentations across the intranet;
- Collaboration centers;
- Employee cafeteria with onsite catering and vending services;
- A 2,000-square-foot employee fitness center.

All told, at its new location, BAE Systems now has a 61,000-square-foot Prototype Facility for the design, development and testing of military ground combat vehicles; a 164,000-square-foot admin and engineering center; a renovated test track that spans approximately 0.4 miles in length; and a 5,000-square-foot building adjacent to the test track to support test operations.

"We've always believed that the Sterling Heights area was a great place to invest our resources in close proximity to

our customers (TACOM and TARDEC)," said Frank Pope, president of the Land & Armaments sector at BAE Systems.

"Here, we have a workforce of talent and experience unique to this region, individuals with skills born out of the world's leading automotive manufacturers."

"Adding to this advantage is the infrastructure and diverse pool of suppliers associated with the auto industry."

Last week's ribbon-cutting ceremony drew luminaries ranging from Sterling Heights Mayor Richard Nott to two U.S. Congress members - Representatives Candice Miller and Sander Levin.

The overall project team included support from Gov. Rick Snyder's office, the city of Sterling Heights, the Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC), Macomb County, Plante Moran Cressa and general contractor Walbridge.

BAE's Sterling Heights expansion project broke ground in February, 2009, after the company acquired the site of former owner TRW Automotive Holdings Corp.

The office complex and adjacent prototype facility cost

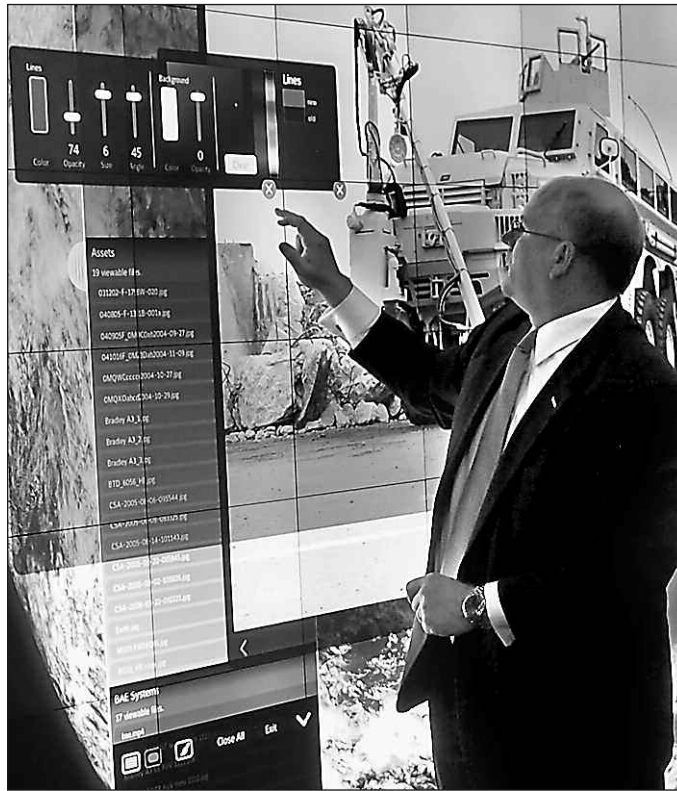


PHOTO: GERALD SCOTT

Mike Bocek manipulates a digital video wall in the supplier's Genesis room at its new administration and engineering center in Sterling Heights. BAE held a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week.

\$58 million to construct and now occupies approximately 230,000 square feet of developed space across the 81 acres of the former TRW site.

The aforementioned prototype facility opened in August, 2010, and together with the office complex is a premier center for the engineering, development and program management of military ground vehicles.

According to officials, BAE's new admin and engineering building was built to meet the specifications of a Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, which would be a first in Sterling Heights.

The new structure includes:

- Recycled building materials;

- Low"E" glass to reduce thermal load;
- Low-flow, high-efficiency plumbing fixtures;
- A single-stream recycling program for a landfill-free site.

## Brazil Trade Execs Looking At Auto Pact With Mexico

By MARCO SIBAJA  
Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) - Brazil may end a decade-old automotive trade pact with Mexico and start charging tariffs on cars imported from that country as it battles a growing trade deficit in the sector, the government and local media said last week.

The 2002 agreement for the import and export of cars and parts with Mexico "is being reviewed," said trade secretary Tatiana Prazeres, according to the Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade's press office.

The end of the agreement would mean that Mexican cars sold in Brazil would have a 35 percent import tax and an "industrial production tax" of up to 41 percent slapped on them.

Brazil imports of Mexican vehicles rose 40 percent in 2011 from the previous year to more than \$2 billion, while it exported just \$372 million worth of cars to Mexico.

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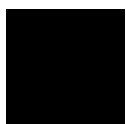
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