



# Business & INDUSTRY

Franklin County has a strong base of diversified industries thanks to community leaders working together to recruit and retain them. Our location on or near major interstate highways coupled with a quality workforce and available inexpensive land has been helpful, but without a strong private/public partnership welcoming opportunities for growth in investment and jobs, we could not be as successful as we are today.

Wal-Mart and American Eagle Outfitters, each with more than 1.2 million square feet of warehouse/distribution space and employing 1,500 and 700 respectively, are our largest employers. Kalmar/Ottawa, the world's largest builder of terminal

yard tractors for export/import facilities continues its success right here in Ottawa. They will be building their 50,000th tractor in 2009. Kennel-Aire, the world's second largest pet carrier builder and distributor, has vertically integrated its operation and now employs over 100 at its northeast Ottawa Industrial Park locations. Schuff Steel continues to fabricate steel for some of the largest construction sites in the U.S.A. If we have one challenge, it is the lack of available space and land to welcome others to our community, but that issue is being addressed and will be solved through partnerships in the next few years.



Kalmar employees in Ottawa stopped to celebrate the plant's 45,000th terminal tractor in April. We have been building terminal tractors for 50 years.

## Kalmar Industries Corp.

415 East Dundee Street • Ottawa, KS 66067

785-242-2200

[www.kalmarind-northamerica.com](http://www.kalmarind-northamerica.com)



Kalmar is part of Cargotec Corporation

Commercial and retail growth continues to expand. Two new travel centers are planned for Ottawa with one on I-35 at K-68, and the other at US 59 and I-35. The new intermodal facility planned for our neighboring community at Gardner is the catalyst for these investments.

All areas of Ottawa and virtually all of Franklin County are experiencing expansion of industry and living unit growth. The former Fogle Quarry on East 23rd is now Loma Vista, a 300-acre starter commercial nursery, which sells to retailers and landscapers regionally. Loma Vista is a beautiful site to see during the spring and summer as the plants grow and flower. The smaller communities of Richmond, Wellsville and Pomona have experienced commercial development and housing growth.

Of course, none of the above would be possible without a strong banking community, which cooperates with and encourages economic development efforts and activities. Our banks are second to none in supporting our chamber and community.



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