High Technology

Home to the Silicon Forest, the local concentration of high-tech companies have made a name for Oregon across the globe. Three companies sparked the evolution of high-tech in Oregon: Tektronix in the 1960s, Mentor Graphics in the ‘70s and Intel in the ‘80s. These companies have each spun-off hundreds of other startups, and evolved into a robust supply chain that can provide a competitive advantage to any technology company looking at expansion.

The largest cluster of Oregon technology companies is located around the city of Hillsboro, anchored by Intel’s largest facility in the world and supported by a highly skilled and experienced workforce. This buildup of talent and infrastructure has spawned other sectors such as bioscience, digital displays and software development.

Oregon is home to more than 1,500 software companies, and is particularly strong in the areas of finance, open source, education, mobile and healthcare applications. Healthcare-associated software companies have helped grow a strong bioscience industry that benefits from a renowned research facility in Oregon Health and Sciences University, located in Portland.

“There is a large pool of technical talent in Portland with the kind of skills we need, it is close to a wide range of outdoor activities, it is an incredible place to live and an easy place to recruit workers.”

Matt Tucker
CTO & co-founder, Jive Software
Semiconductor

Intel and Tektronix opened their doors in Oregon four decades ago, and their success has grown a forest of **thousands of technology firms** that employ almost 60,000 in Oregon. Oregon is home to Intel's largest global manufacturing facility, and Intel is the largest private employer in the state.

The sheer volume of technology firms, skilled employees, low energy costs, stable energy supply, developed supply chain and low business taxes make Oregon a globally competitive location for semiconductor and high-tech companies. The Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI), is a state-funded Signature Research Center that connects the top researchers and cutting-edge laboratories at Oregon's research universities with businesses in order to **translate research into commercial products**, and ultimately, a competitive advantage for the state.

Bioscience

Bio-tech companies have found that a smaller state like Oregon can be fertile ground for focused, innovative research. Galena Biopharma just moved here from Boston to pursue cancer pharmaceutical research. Genentech is manufacturing pharmaceuticals at its large facility in Hillsboro.

The industry is supported by the Oregon Translational Research and Drug Development Institute (OTRADI), a Signature Research Center that **connects industry with state-of-the-art tools** and expertise to accelerate the development of therapeutics and technologies arising from infectious disease research.

Software

Oregon is home to around 1,500 software companies, with a particularly strong presence in mobile, education and finance applications.

Oregon's software industry benefits from relationships with the strong semiconductor industry, and the presence of young **talented designers and programmers** who want to call Oregon home.

From large established firms like Mentor Graphics and IBM, to new startups making waves in the industry, software companies are finding the ideal talent pool and business environment for success. These firms could do business anywhere in the world, but they choose Oregon.