

REGION: TULSA METRO



Koltek employees work at the company's testing facility near Okmulgee.
Photo by Rip Stell

Perfect Location

Koltek adds testing center at its 99-acre facility

By Heide Brandes

When Koltek Energy Services, a nationwide energy services company, considered launching a new Koltek Testing Facility, it didn't take much to convince CEO Tim Koltek that its 99-acre facility in Morris near Okmulgee would be the perfect location.

"We have been doing well servicing in northeast Oklahoma for 15 years, so it made sense to choose Okmulgee," he said. "We have a great group of people there, and the state is very energy-friendly and business-friendly. Oklahoma had everything we needed

— a great workforce, great banking facilities and low cost of doing business."

The new Koltek Testing Facility in Morris will allow oil-field equipment manufacturers to test energy and drilling equipment in a secure location 24 hours a day. The facility includes a GEFCO Speedstar drilling rig with an 185,000-pound static hook load and redundant mud pumps with 1,000 horsepower.

According to Koltek, the facility allows companies to "drill anything from surface wells to 5,000-foot directional wells because of Koltek's

EM MWD drilling equipment, including directional drillers on site to manage operations."

Services including well planning and permits are also handled at the Koltek Testing Facility.

Though the company has seven locations across the nation, Koltek said he's found that Oklahoma is among the most business-friendly and energy-friendly, which is often not the case in other states.

"In Oklahoma, the cost of doing business is very, very reasonable," he said. "Even when you look at areas like Colorado, Wyoming and

California, the costs are extremely competitive and lower. Businesses are not regulated to death here, and the state is very pro-energy, too. Not a lot of other locations are that way.”

The ease of doing business also led Koltek to choose the Morris location.

“The Tulsa airport is just an hour from here,” he said. “We have a lot of Canadian clients that fly in, and they can fly into Tulsa and reach us easily.”

Another major decision-making factor for the energy services company was access to capital.

“Access to capital was a big deal for us. In Oklahoma, you have these types of family banks that are eager to work with you,” Koltek said. “In California, you have these big megabanks and it can take nine months to get a loan. Here, we can get a loan with the banks in about an hour.”

Koltek worked with the Okmulgee Area Development Corp. on the development of the new testing facility and qualified for incentives for the program.

“Okmulgee County and the OADC work every day to attract

“Oklahoma had everything we needed – a great workforce, great banking facilities and low cost of doing business.”

— Koltek Energy Services CEO Tim Koltek

additional manufacturers to our area. We have four industrial parks, with infrastructure installed, ready for construction,” said Court Newkirk, executive director of the OADC. “Okmulgee is, for a small city, very heavily invested in value-added manufacturing. We have one of the highest concentrations of manufacturing jobs of any city in the state of Oklahoma. Six of our major employers ship products made in Okmulgee worldwide.”

Because of Green Country Technology Center, the Oklahoma Institute of Technology and the College of the Muscogee Nation, a

well-trained workforce is plentiful in the area, he added. Okmulgee also boasts of a sufficient water supply to support the needs of new industry.

“We had a lot of reasons why we wanted to open the testing facility here,” Koltek said. “The state is business-friendly and the people are very hardworking. We have a lot of people in Oklahoma in the energy space, and we also work with CareerTech. We have more trade folks that we hire, so we really look to those trade skills that CareerTech offers. We are just bullish on Oklahoma. We love it here.”

MARKET ACCESS/LOCATION:

The Tulsa metropolitan area is an intermodal transportation hub with rail, air, truck and water access available. More than 2.5 million tons of cargo was shipped through the Tulsa Port of Catoosa in 2017. Tulsa International Airport has nonstop service to 17 cities with an average of more than 55 daily departures. The airport is located 10 minutes from most points in the city including downtown and the Port of Catoosa. Richard L. Jones Jr. Airport, located in southwest Tulsa, serves as the reliever airport for Tulsa International.



LARGEST CITIES

Tulsa 399,906

Broken Arrow 104,869
Owasso 33,598

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012-2016

Bixby 23,956
Sapulpa 20,546

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TOP INDUSTRY CLUSTERS



Health Care
Aerospace and Aviation
Energy
Manufacturing
Transportation
Distribution and Logistics

LARGEST EMPLOYERS



American Airlines
Oneok
QuikTrip
Spirit AeroSystems
Williams Companies
Saint Francis Hospital
St. John Medical Center
Hillcrest Medical Center

WORKFORCE



Labor Force: 478,105
Employed: 456,682
Unemployed: 21,423
Unemployment Rate: 4.5%

Source: Oklahoma Employment Securities Commission, 2017 Annual Average

QUALITY OF LIFE

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population: 990,706
Median Household Income: \$50,950
Mean Household Income: \$69,597

COMMUTING PATTERNS:

Average Commute Time

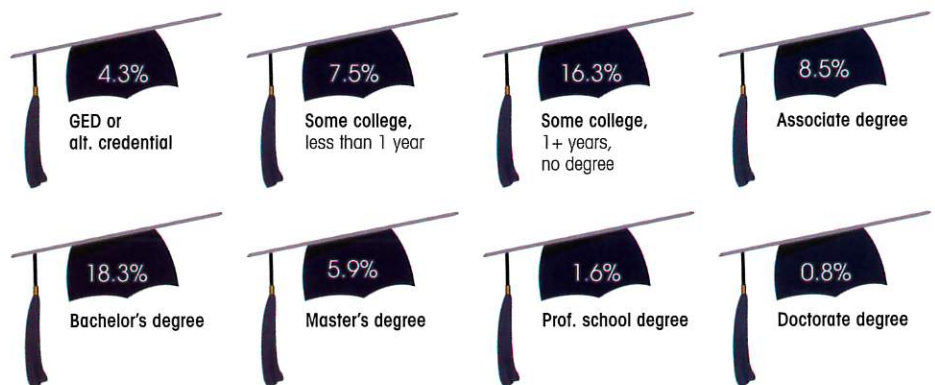
#4 Tulsa
Tier II cities for new
and expanded
facilities
Site Selection Group, 2015



EDUCATION

The Tulsa metro area is home to more than a dozen higher education institutions and technology centers as well as other additional accredited schools where individuals can obtain degrees or certificates to further their career.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012-2016



FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

FTZ No. 53 Rogers County
Grantee: City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority

5350 Cimarron Rd.
Catoosa, OK 74015
Contact: David L. Yarbrough
918-266-2291 x19
Port: Tulsa

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AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTACTS

For more information on specific areas in this region, contact the regional development specialist at the Oklahoma Department of Commerce or one of the economic development contacts listed below:

Oklahoma Department of Commerce
Charlotte Howe,
Regional Development Specialist
Northeast Oklahoma
918-619-2482
charlotte.howe@okcommerce.gov

Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Corporation
www.brokenarrowchamber.com
Kinnee Tilly,
Senior Vice President,
Economic Development
Kinnee.tilly@baedc.com
918-251-1518

Cherokee Nation Businesses LLC
www.cherokeemissionbusinesses.com
Andy McMillan, Director,
Special Projects &
Economic Development
andy.mcmillan@cn-bus.com
918-384-7774

Eastern Oklahoma Development District
www.eoddok.org
Ernie Moore,
Economic Development Director
emoore@eoddok.org
918-682-7891

Grand Gateway Economic Development Association
grandgateway.org
Edward Crone, Executive Director
executivedir@grandgateway.org
800-482-4594

Indian Nations Council of Governments
www.incog.org
Rich Brierre, Executive Director
rbrierre@incog.org
919-584-7526

Northeast Oklahoma Regional Alliance (NORA)
www.neokregion.org
Darla Heller, Executive Director
dheller@neokregion.org
918-772-8334

Oklahoma Small Business Development Center
www.oksbdc.org
580-745-2877

Okmulgee Area Development Corp.
www.okmulgeedevelopment.com
Bob Klabenes,
Economic Development Director
oadc.ok@gmail.com
918-758-1131

City of Owasso
www.cityofowasso.com
Chelsea Levo,
Director of Economic Development
clevo@cityofowasso.com
918-376-1518

Sand Springs, City of
www.seesandsprings.com
Elizabeth A. Gray,
City Manager
eagrays@sandspringsok.org

Sapulpa, City of
www.cityofsapulpa.net
Economic Development Director
918-224-3040

Tulsa Regional Chamber
GrowMetroTulsa.com
Brien Thorstenberg,
Senior Vice President, Economic
Development
brienthorstenberg@tulsachamber.com
918-560-0231

Rusty Linker,
Director of New Business Development
& Marketing, Economic Development
rustylinker@tulsachamber.com
918-560-0233

Wagoner County
Economic Development Authority
Community Development
918-486-4589

POINT OF INTEREST:

Housed in the historic Tulsa Union Depot, the **Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame** features exhibits of gospel, jazz and blues musicians. Photographs of jazz greats including Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, J.J. Cale and Duke Ellington line the walls and an art gallery, which features sculptures depicting musical themes and performers, completes the museum. The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame hosts music concerts, community-based arts programming and special events.

Associated Press photo

