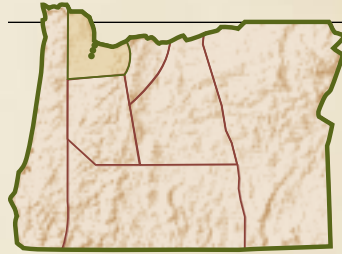


## PORTLAND OREGON



OUTSTANDING PUBLIC ART, DOZENS OF URBAN PARKS AND GREENSPACES, A LIVELY DOWNTOWN, AND A WORLD-CLASS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ARE JUST A FEW OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JEWEL OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. DOWNTOWN PORTLAND BOASTS A MYRIAD OF DIVERSE ARCHITECTURE, PERFORMING ARTS CENTERS, NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED MUSEUMS, SPORTS VENUES, AND FABULOUS RESTAURANTS, WITH DOZENS OF SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES TO FIT ALMOST ANY PERSONALITY. SEASONAL RAIN SHOWERS NEVER DAMPEN THIS CITY'S SENSE OF WHIMSY AND WONDER, AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS AND FESTIVALS TAKE PLACE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. MEET JUST A FEW OF THE THOUSANDS OF SAIF-INSURED EMPLOYERS IN THIS AREA.



Bicky Nguyen holds up new monosilicon wafers at Siltronic.



**SILTRONIC** PORTLAND  
1,100 employees

Answer your cell phone or turn the ignition in a new car, and you could be stimulating Oregon's manufacturing economy without even knowing it. Many of us think of electronics as coming from factories overseas, but Oregon's manufacturing industry is playing its part in the latest technology anywhere.

The high-tech boom of the last 20 years thundered around the world perhaps nowhere more than in Oregon's I-5 corridor, fondly nicknamed the "Silicon Forest" after the original Silicon Valley of California. The sheer number of world-renowned companies in technology industries has created a knowledge base and industry that employs tens of thousands of Oregonians. Tektronix, Xerox, Intel, AMD, InFocus and Sun Microsystems all

have major operations or headquarters here. The result is that high technology has assumed the leading role in Oregon's economy previously held by the forest products industry, even since the burst of the dot-com bubble.

One of these global companies is Siltronic, part of the European company Wacker Chemie. In 1979, Portland became home to the company's first production facility outside Germany and has continued to watch the site expand into more production capacity in recent years. The company makes hyper-pure, monosilicon wafers that end up in all kinds of digital devices from toys to traffic signals.

"Oregon is an ideal place for our company because of the clean water, clean air and educated workforce," says Dennis Netsch, a senior manager at Siltronic. "The employee base set in place by Intel and Tektronix is there, and land is available for expansions. In addition, the services we enjoy from the city make Portland a comfortable home for us."

Learn more at [www.siltronic.com](http://www.siltronic.com)



**BONITA PIONEER** PORTLAND  
145 employees

With more than two million people in the greater Portland area, the economy's diversity equals its size. Nearly every kind of business imaginable can be found in the phone book of Oregon's largest city, many of which lead their industries across the nation and around the globe.

On the south end of town, the 15-year-old Bonita Pioneer packaging company rolls out custom designed retail boxes, shopping bags, wrapping paper and gift wrap all under one roof. It's the only company in the U.S. that does all of this. In fact, it won the award for manufacturer of the year in 2004 from the national



Box plant manager Larry Oldenstadt has been with Bonita Pioneer 14 years.

Retail Packaging Association – the third time in nine years.

With a full-color printing press, cutting machines, and an entire in-house graphic design department, the company last year processed 120 million feet of paper stock into its myriad of packaging products – including some 75 million shopping bags and 35 million boxes.

Two years ago, Bonita Pioneer brought its business to SAIF Corporation to help improve worker safety and get better service on its workers' compensation claims. Vice-president of manufacturing Tom Shaw says SAIF helped make safety a bigger part of daily operations. "SAIF has been proactive from day one, helping us prevent back injuries on the production floor and working with our safety committee," says Shaw. "Their help has really been invaluable."

Find out more at [www.bonitapioneer.com](http://www.bonitapioneer.com)



**NEW RENAISSANCE BOOKS**  
PORTLAND  
16 employees

Far from the quiet serenity of eastern Oregon and soothing waves of the Pacific Ocean is the hip urban hustle of Portland. On Northwest 23rd Avenue, people of all colors and sizes mix and mingle to shop, eat and people-watch on the sidewalks in front of merchants coffee shops, restaurants, boutiques and bookstores.

Holding its own on the shaded streets at the end of the Portland trolley line is New Renaissance Books, specializing in metaphysical books, music, and other media for "conscious

living." It's just one many independent bookstores in Portland, a city known worldwide for books and reading. The Rose City is also home to Powell's City of Books, the largest new-and-used bookstore in the world.

"The number of independent bookstores, restaurants and other small businesses here make Portland unique from any other city in the country," says Jamey Potter, who founded the store in



New Renaissance Books employee Connie Hill with SAIF return-to-work consultant Jacquie Strand.

1987 with his wife, Darlene. "We get visitors to this area and our store from New York, Japan, Chicago, who don't have anything like this. It's something special that Oregon has. The 'no sales tax' is also a great draw especially for tourism and attracting dollars from out of state."

Potter says Oregon is also good for business and independent business thanks to the inexpensive and balanced workers' compensation system. He says that their electricity rates shot up 50 percent a couple of years ago, and he feels bad for California businesses whose workers' compensation rates have done the same thing in the past few years.

"All of my experiences working with SAIF have been great. I don't know how you could complain about it or its mission. You have a company whose entire purpose is to take care of workers, which it does, and do everything it can to lower prices for employers. We've enjoyed the dividends and lower prices."

Learn more at [www.newrenbooks.com](http://www.newrenbooks.com)