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Deval Patrick** in Governor's Office

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GOVERNOR PATRICK VISITS PLUMCHOICE HEADQUARTERS TO HIGHLIGHT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UNDERWAY IN BILLERICA**6th Fastest Growing Firm in Boston Area Supported by Patrick-Murray Administration's Investments in Innovation**

Governor Patrick answers PlumChoice employees' questions during a town hall style meeting. (Photo credit: Matt Bennett/Governor's Office). [View additional photos.](#)

BILLERICA - Tuesday, October 19, 2010 - With a continued focus on promoting job growth and long-term economic recovery, Governor Deval Patrick today visited one of the state's fastest growing firms, Information Technology support company PlumChoice, Inc. in Billerica, to tour the company's headquarters and meet with its employees.

"Our number one priority is putting people to work and ensuring that we're helping to create the jobs of tomorrow," said Governor Patrick. "Visiting PlumChoice today, and speaking with the individuals hard at work here, provides tangible proof that our investments in innovation are paying off."

PlumChoice, the sixth fastest growing company in the Boston area, provides online computer support and repair for home, home office and small business from its call center in Billerica. Due to the remote nature of the work it conducts, the company exemplifies Massachusetts' growing innovative, green high-tech sector. It was the first company to be awarded a U.S. Patent for its use of remote services to supply groups of retail stores or other locations with technology services, thereby enabling the delivery of higher quality, more reliable and overall lower cost services. Since 2006, the company has increased its workforce by 147%, growing from 74 employees in Massachusetts to 183. PlumChoice has also seen its revenues skyrocket from \$3.2 million to an anticipated \$42 million at the end of FY10.

"We are delighted to have the Governor visit PlumChoice headquarters in Billerica. Massachusetts has been a terrific environment to build an innovative technology company. We are excited about our progress and look forward to a bright future," said Ted Werth, PlumChoice CEO.

"PlumChoice provides yet another example of how effective this Administration and the legislature, working together, have been at building a strong foundation for economic recovery and creating an environment where job growth can flourish in

Massachusetts. And congratulations to PlumChoice for its commitment to green practices and for its impressive employment growth," said Senator Kenneth Donnelly.

The Patrick-Murray Administration has made investments in the Information Technology and other high-tech fields a top priority. In January 2009, Governor Patrick called for the establishment of an IT Collaborative - now the Tech Hub Collaborative - bringing together industry, academia and government to advance policy and an action agenda to enhance the IT sector's competitiveness. Since its inception, the Tech Hub Collaborative has been engaged in supporting entrepreneurship and helping spur start-up firms across the state by pairing CEOs and VCs with entrepreneurs; enhancing the Massachusetts talent pipeline by filling the gap between job opportunities in the technology sector and available talent; and partnering on projects like the recently announced High Performance Computing Center in Holyoke.

Massachusetts' IT industry represents the state's second largest knowledge-intensive industry cluster and is home to 10,300 firms with more than 178,000 workers across the Commonwealth. The industry directly expended \$65 billion in Massachusetts in 2008 - nearly 18 percent of state's Gross Domestic Product. Linkages to the health care, life sciences, financial services and defense and energy sectors are catalyzing new opportunities for growth, demonstrating the importance of this sector as a vehicle for innovation and economic growth.

Since day one, Governor Patrick's top priority has been to create jobs and build a stronger economic foundation for the people of Massachusetts. Through fiscally responsible, targeted investments in the life sciences and clean energy sectors, along with the largest investment in our public infrastructure in decades, the Patrick-Murray Administration is putting people back to work in every corner of the Commonwealth. As a result, Massachusetts is emerging from the recession faster and stronger than any other state in the nation.

Massachusetts has added nearly 65,000 new jobs since December 2009. In its 2010 edition of America's Top States for Business, CNBC ranked Massachusetts in the top five nationally for business competitiveness.

Additionally, the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia reports that Massachusetts ranks second in the nation in economic growth since December 2009 and is projected to continue growing at the second fastest rate in the US over the next nine months.

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