

With the continued growth Gilbert is experiencing in anchor institutions and population, the need for advanced business services is at a steady increase.

Businesses based in Gilbert benefit from a highly educated workforce with over 36% of the community holding a bachelor's degree or higher, and an entrepreneurial spirit that includes one of the largest concentrations of home-based businesses in Arizona.

Specialists in accounting, financial analysis, law, design, marketing, insurance, architecture, engineering, venture capital, investment banking, real estate, and data centers, among others, will find a growing client base in Gilbert and its surrounding communities. These firms will be able to service clients globally with access to a workforce of 1 million, and 80 percent of the area's advanced business specialists, within a 30-minute commute.

Gilbert's enterprise-friendly environment has underwritten success for businesses ranging from small home-based operations to mid-sized and large companies. This includes an existing inventory of 3.5 million-square-foot of commercial office space and over 1000 acres of shovel ready dirt zoned for office use.

In addition, Gilbert's proximity to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, as well as easy freeway access, provides convenience in regional and international travel.

Gilbert-Based Investment

A principal provider of information technology consulting services for the education market, **Unicon, Inc.** has tripled in size since locating its headquarters to the community in 2009. Unicon operates a 30,000-square-foot office with 134 high-wage employees.

GoDaddy.com, a worldwide leading Internet domain registrar and web-hosting company that also sells e-business-related software and services continues to expand within Gilbert adding another 18,000-square-foot of space and \$2.49 million in capital investment in 2011. And with the addition of another 200 employees, GoDaddy continues to be one of the community's largest employers with over 700 employees.

Spain-based **Mapfre Group** chose Gilbert for an insurance center that houses the western claims center, automobile and homeowner's claims staff, underwriters and marketing representatives.

EchoStar Corporation, a leader in service to satellite, IPTV, cable, terrestrial, and consumer electronics markets worldwide, operates an uplink facility from the Gilbert community. Highly trained engineers, technicians and operators work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to ensure superior signal transmission while continuously improving signal quality for customer satisfaction.

Educational Assets

The nearby presence of **Arizona State University (ASU) Polytechnic** and **Chandler-Gilbert Community College** not only train and educate tomorrow's business leaders, they also provide an environment of innovation and entrepreneurship.

New and existing businesses can participate in a variety of programs at the ASU Knowledge and Enterprise Development center, and the **ASU College of Technology and Innovation** allows students and faculty to work together across disciplines to create, design and develop innovative solutions to real-world problems. Labs directly benefiting the advanced business services sector include:

- Laboratory for Enterprise Application and Development
- Human Technology Interaction Lab
- Advanced Technology Center
- Applied Pyschonomics and Ecological Simulations Laboratory
- Cognitive Engineering Research on Team Tasks Laboratory

