

India-based Stixis Technologies to build first U.S. software center in Baton Rouge

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Stixis

India-based Stixis **TECHNOLOGIES** Inc. President and CEO Rayudu Dhananjaya announced the company is hosting its first U.S. location, a 230-job software center at Louisiana **TECHNOLOGY** Park. (Renita D. Young, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune)

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on October 02, 2014 at 2:25 PM, updated October 02, 2014 at 10:26 PM

India-based retail **TECHNOLOGY** CONSULTING COMPANY Stixis Technology, Inc. announced Thursday (Oct. 2) plans to host its first U.S. software center in Baton Rouge.

Officials said at a Thursday announcement that the company will house its first U.S. site, the Stixis AMIGOs (Agility Metamorphosis Incubator for Global Operations) Development Center, at Louisiana Technology Park on Florida Boulevard.

"The Stixis AMIGOs Development Center will focus on innovation, which we think will be well-supported by highly skilled manpower available locally – scientists, engineers, university professors and research students," Stixis Technologies Inc. President and CEO Rayudu Dhananjaya said. "This center is expected to accelerate solutions development, streamline software product delivery and give rise to new business models that help enterprises run more efficiently and stay competitive."

The company will create 230 new direct jobs with an average salary of \$59,500 per year, plus benefits. In addition to those new direct jobs, Louisiana Economic Development estimates the project to result in an additional 233 new indirect jobs, for a total of more than 450 new jobs in the Baton Rouge are.

Officials said Stixis will begin operations immediately with the company expecting to hire the 230 direct jobs by 2019. Stixis will lease existing incubator tenant space at Louisiana Technology Park with the option of leasing and building-out larger, customized technology space at the park as company operations grow.

"For over 13 years, the Tech Park has been the hub for innovation in Baton Rouge, providing local, regional and

national high-tech entrepreneurs the synergy and services they need to launch their products faster and more effectively," said Louisiana Technology Park Executive Director Stephen Loy. "Now with Stixis, we are able to bring our environment to bear and serve as a soft landing space for an international startup. We are thrilled to have Stixis here in Baton Rouge and at the Tech Park and are eager to see how they'll add to the energy here."

Dhananjaya said Stixis chose Baton Rouge over numerous other cities after Louisiana Economic Development crafted an incentive package and offered partnerships with LSU and Southern.

LED began talking with Stixis in January 2014. To secure the project, the state of Louisiana offered the company an incentive package including LED FastStart, Louisiana's Digital Interactive Media and Software Development Incentive, and the Quality **JOBS PROGRAM**.

"Since 2008, we've made economic development one of our top priorities and worked to make Louisiana a place where businesses want to invest. That work has paid off – Louisiana has become the nation's new frontier for BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. and nowhere is that more evident than in the technology sector," Gov. Bobby Jindal said. "With the nation's top state business climate and a top-notch tech workforce, Louisiana offers the very best value for expanding and relocating technology firms."

"The digital industry in Baton Rouge continues to gain strength and momentum, thanks to companies like Stixis **TECHNOLOGIES** "," said Baton Rouge Mayor-President Melvin "Kip" Holden. "Not only will the company provide quality jobs and capital investment, they have a vision for developing the region's workforce through training courses led by company experts."

As part of Stixis' investment, the company will mentor students at LSU in an incubation boot camp through agile software development practices covering big data analytics, mobility, business intelligence, cloud computing and social media applications. company engineers will also help redevelop the LSU **ENGINEERING SCHOOL'S** curriculum. Holden said the company will create a similar partnership with Southern University in coming months.

Stixis adds to the growing list of **TECHNOLOGY** companies that have started operations in Louisiana over the last few years, including IBM, EA, Gameloft, GE Capital, and CGI among others.

Founded in 2009 and based in Bangalore, India, Stixis engineers **SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS** along with application management, maintenance and support for customers across a range of sectors, including oil and gas, health care, digital media and entertainment, education, retail and government. Stixis operates a development center in Johannesburg, South Africa, and a U.S. sales office in the Dallas area.

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