



## Who we are

### At a glance

The City of Canton is a medium-sized community of 78,000 city residents (407,000 metro) located on the middle and west branches of the Nimishillen Creek in northeastern Ohio. The city is home to 5,800 businesses, including the regional, national, or global offices of several *Fortune 1000*™ companies, such as: **Timken Company** (NYSE:TKR), **American Electric Power** (NYSE:AEP), **Diebold Incorporated** (NYSE:DBD), **Huntington Bank** (NASDAQ:HBAN), **Marathon Petroleum** (NYSE:MRO), and **Nationwide Mutual Insurance** (NYSE:NFS).

### Quality of Life

#### Education

The greater Canton region is home to five colleges and universities, each helping to provide local employers with a dedicated and highly-trained workforce. **Malone University**, **Kent State University (Stark Campus)**, **Walsh University**, **Stark State College of Technology**, and **Mount Union College** are all located within twenty-five minutes of downtown.

#### Health Care

Canton is home to the region's two largest hospital systems: the **Aultman Health Foundation** and **Mercy Medical Center**. Recognized by independent quality-measurement organizations and ranked by national publications like *U.S. News and World Report*, these Canton institutions have provided quality health care services to residents in a 5-county region for over 100 years. To ensure that quality of care continues, each has been undertaking major renovations and expansions to accommodate their growing customer base. In the past five years alone, Canton hospitals have spent a total of \$250 million in new construction and expansion.

#### Culture & Entertainment

From cultural arts and fine cuisine to live music and outdoor festivals, there is no shortage of options to satisfy the entertainment tastes of Canton residents. Attractions like the **Canton Ballet**, **Canton Symphony Orchestra**, **Canton Museum of Art**, and **Players Guild Theater** provide cultural entertainment to a more refined palate, while the **Blue Olive Jazz Club**, **Canton Palace Theatre**, and **Canton Memorial Civic Center** host performers that provide fun for the whole family.

#### Cost of Living

The median price of a home in Canton is \$80,000 - **less than half of the national average**. The general cost of living in Canton is 25.65% lower than the national average, allowing businesses to reap the benefits of low-cost production and increase their overall profit margins.

### Local Attractions

#### NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame

Since opening in 1963, the **NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame** has seen millions of visitors walk through its hallowed halls to pay tribute to the legendary heroes of professional football. Every year, the nation watches as a new class of enshrinees are inducted during an incredible celebration of sporting history, including a nationally televised football game and weeklong enshrinement festival.

- Learn more about the Hall of Fame: [www.profootballhof.com](http://www.profootballhof.com)

#### Historic Landmarks

Since Canton's establishment in 1805, residents have faithfully preserved the historical significance of the city in our nation's history. From the **President William McKinley National Monument and Presidential Library** to the **National First Ladies Library** to more than 50 historic buildings in the city's newly-restored downtown area, Canton is alive with American history!

- Learn more about the McKinley National Monument: [www.mckinleymuseum.org](http://www.mckinleymuseum.org)

## What we offer

**Site Selection** The City of Canton has a wide variety of out-of-the-box facilities and build-ready sites to offer companies that need large amounts of space for research, offices, or manufacturing. This fact is likely why a 2007 study by the **National Policy Research Council** (as reported in *Expansion Management Magazine*) identified Canton as the **#1 mid-size metropolitan area for recruitment and attraction of new businesses**.

**Global Access** We can help companies compete in the global economy by partnering with state trade offices in more than a dozen countries, giving local businesses access to markets, suppliers, and customers outside of the United States. Also, with a **Foreign Trade Zone** (see reverse for more information) located only **minutes from downtown**, products can be shipped or received worldwide in the blink of an eye.

**Public/Private Partnerships** Local businesses benefit from a number of **grants, tax incentives, and low-interest loans** from city, county, state, federal, and private/non-profit sources. Companies also have access to a wide variety of services offered by the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce.

**Workforce** By working closely with our local partners in secondary and higher education, we are making sure that local companies possess **a workforce of skilled and highly-trained employees** to operate their businesses.



## Business Infrastructure

### Passenger Air Travel

The **Akron-Canton Regional Airport** (CAK) is one of the fastest growing airports in the country. In August 2008, the Airport reported its second best month ever with a 15.7% increase in passengers from the same period the year before. The low cost and efficiency of CAK gives local companies the freedom to conduct business around the country without having to worry about long lines and highly-priced fares. With \$110 million in expansions planned over the next ten years, CAK will be positioned to offer the more domestic and international flights than ever before.

### Foreign Trade Zone

Also at CAK, the **Northeast Ohio Trade and Economic Consortium** (NEOTEC) operates Foreign Trade Zone #181, which allows local companies to deliver their products around the world quickly and conveniently - right from their own back yard.

• Learn more about NEOTEC: [www.neotec.org](http://www.neotec.org)

### Highway Transit

Canton is located at the intersection of two major highway systems - I-77 and US-30 - connecting businesses to more than 50% of the nation's population in less than a day's travel. This gives businesses the freedom to deliver their products to an ever-growing customer base both quickly and efficiently.

### Rail Freight Service

The **Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Co.** operates more than 800 miles of freight line stretching from western Ohio into Pennsylvania, with additional trackage rights into Maryland. The Wheeling serves Canton, Toledo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Akron markets. The **Norfolk Southern Corporation** provides freight service to Cleveland, Toledo, and Norfolk, VA.

### Limitless Water Supply

If your company requires large amounts of fresh water for processing or manufacturing your product, the City of Canton owns and operates one of the largest underground freshwater aquifers in the state. Our nearly endless supply of clean, fresh, and affordable water can be offered to your business as an investment incentive.

## Recent Investments

### Alternative Fuels

**Marathon Petroleum Co. LLC** (NYSE: MRO) is currently building a \$250 million, state-of-the-art hydrotreater at their Canton refinery, enabling them to better compete in the changing global fuel markets by producing ultra-low sulfur diesel.

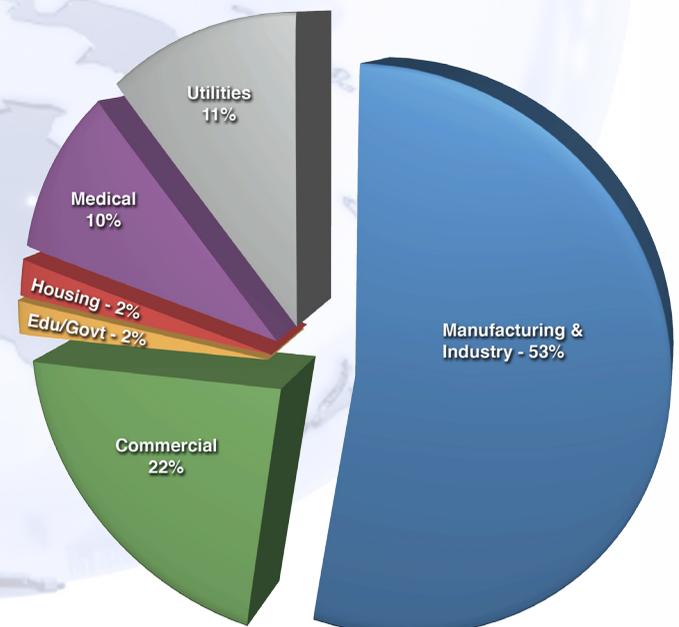
**Hydrodec North America** (LSE:HYR), an Australian company that specializes in sustainable resources technology, is building its first North American plant in Canton. Their \$15 million refinery will use patented, cutting-edge processes to convert used oil into a marketable commodity.

**Rolls-Royce Fuel Cell** (FWB:BMW), headquartered on the campus of Stark State College of Technology, is a prime example of an innovative public/private partnership involving higher education and business. To date, Rolls-Royce and Stark State College have invested \$6.2 million in the development of a high-pressure stack block test system to be placed in a Fuel Cell Power Module Overhaul Facility. This latest technology places Ohio at the forefront of fuel cell development and innovation.

### Steel and Titanium Manufacturing

Canton is home to major domestic and foreign steel manufacturers **Timken Co.** (NYSE:TKR) **Republic Engineered Steel** (BMV:ICH), and RTI Titanium, which together have invested over \$136 million in new facilities and capital improvements in the past four years alone.

## 2008 Active Investments (\$834m)



**DETAIL:** The above chart represents all active investments and capital improvements (\$500,000 or more) within the City of Canton through September 30, 2008. **The total amount of investment measured by this chart totals \$834 million.**