

Organogenesis to triple its Canton office space

By Christine McConville

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Photo by Angela Rowlings

Growing organ-ically: Canton-based Organogenesis Inc.'s CEO Geoff MacKay announces expansion plans yesterday with Gov. Deval Patrick.

Skin-substitute maker Organogenesis Inc. is planning to significantly expand its Canton facility.

"We are really exploding with growth, for the fifth year in a row," Organogenesis Chief Executive Geoff MacKay said yesterday.

"We really need to expand to meet the physicians' demand," he said.

The company's plan to triple its Canton office space is being fueled by a \$12.9 million economic incentive package created by the state's Office of Business Development and another \$5 million in state-sponsored low-interest loans.

The company, which is headquartered in Canton, plans to keep its 150 Dan Road facility, and expand into two nearby buildings.

“We are transforming into a campus,” MacKay said. “It’s a pretty aggressive expansion, in terms of the bricks and mortar.”

In the next few months, the headquarters and main offices will be moved to 85 Dan Road.

The company expects to add another 50 jobs to its current 320-person Massachusetts work force by 2008.

The company, which is expanding both here and internationally, plans to double its Bay State work force in the next few years.

“By the end of this project, we will have 600 workers,” MacKay said.

Organogenesis is a 20-year-old company whose time has come, MacKay said.

“We are riding a pretty big wave in regenerative medicine,” he said. “The idea of using cells to grow new skin is no longer in the realm of science fiction.”

MacKay said Organogenesis executives considered expanding into other states, and even overseas, but decided to stay in Massachusetts because of the state Legislature’s plans to aggressively support the region’s thriving life science industry.