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## Solectron will add 700 employees to Louisville operation

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California-based Solectron Corp., which makes and repairs electronic devices, will add 700 employees at its Louisville center over the next year.

The company's after-market services center at the Commerce Crossings industrial park already has about 1,300 employees. They repair cellular telephones, computers, printers and other devices.

Rachid Mehdaova, the center's general manager, said the company moved in mid-January to a new space at the industrial park, roughly doubling its size to 500,000 square feet.

Details about the expansion and hiring plans will be announced today at an 11 a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4400 Commerce Crossing Drive, near Interstate 65 and the Gene Snyder Freeway.

Mehdaova said the new workers will make \$9 to \$18 an hour depending on skills and experience. People interested in the jobs can go to the center or apply online at [www.solectron.com](http://www.solectron.com).

Solectron announced last week that it will shed 1,300 to 1,500 jobs worldwide as part of a restructuring effort and consolidate or close some facilities in North America and Europe. Mehdaova said the Louisville center's expansion is not a result of those changes.

The company's after-market division, Solectron Global Services Inc., came to Louisville in 2000. Two years later the company was approved for \$3.8 million in state tax incentives as part of an effort to roughly double its work force, which was 212 at the time.

Mehdaova said the center's growth over the past several years has been tied closely to its proximity to UPS Worldport at Louisville International Airport. The sorting hub gives local companies more flexible delivery deadlines for shipping.

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