

Honeywell Aerospace on the rise in PR ^[1]

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Caribbean Business PR ^[2] By CB Online Staff Honeywell Industries is pumping \$1.35 million into an expansion that will create nearly three dozen jobs in its Puerto Rico aerospace operation. The company is adding a support center to provide contract administration, training, technical support and research for its commercial clients. "Honeywell's expansion further solidifies the confidence in our island as a manufacturing center and source of skilled labor," Gov. Luis Fortuño said. Honeywell has added 135 jobs to its local operation over the past year. The new \$1.35 million investment is going toward equipment and payroll for the new support center. "Honeywell Aerospace has seen rapid growth since launching operations here in 2007," said Economic Development & Commerce Secretary José Pérez-Riera, crediting its performance to "our human capital, the combination of incentives offered by the government and the support of the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Co." The Fortuño administration has taken steps to land more aerospace operations in Puerto Rico, which is seen as a bright niche area for the local manufacturing industry. The Strategic Model for the New Economy was designed by the Economic Development & Commerce Department to diversify and stimulate the economy in sectors beyond pharmaceuticals and boost growth in the local aerospace industry. The industry accounts for more than 3,000 direct jobs and private investment that has surpassed \$100 million. Among the aerospace service companies that have a presence in Puerto Rico are Honeywell, Pratt & Whitney/Infotech, Lockheed Martin and Hamilton Sundstrand, among others. The Puerto Rico Industrial Development Co. is pitching the island as an attractive destination for manufacturing aircraft components and those related to defense and the security market in the U.S., which extends into specialized engineering services and the supply chain.

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