

FedEx expands Northgate center

Building will house 40 employees now at leased site

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FedEx Corp. has begun construction on an expansion of its package-tracking software development operation in northern Colorado Springs.

The Memphis, Tenn.-based shipping giant is building a 97,450-square-foot building in the Northgate business park.

The building initially will house about 40 employees now working in leased space nearby. The company doesn't plan any additional hiring, said Jim McCluskey, a FedEx spokesman in Memphis.

The three-story building is scheduled for completion in April 2008 and provides additional space for the company's Rocky Mountain Technology Center, which employs 620 computer programmers, software developers, project managers and technical staff. The center develops and improves package tracking and other software, McCluskey said.

David White, marketing vice president for the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corp., said the organization has been working with FedEx for two years on permits for the expansion.

"We're very happy about their investment in Colorado Springs and look forward to working with them in the future," White said.

FedEx opened the center in 2000 with a 153,000-square-foot building that more than doubled the space it occupied near Rockrimmon Boulevard and Interstate 25.

The expansion has been in the works since 2002, when the company bought 13.5 acres next to its Northgate building to accommodate the second building. Englewood-based Calcon Constructors Inc. is general contractor for the project.

FedEx has been in the Springs since 1978. Programmers developed the sophisticated software used to track packages. Early plans for the company's 28-acre Northgate site showed it had room for four buildings.