

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Pittsburgh Named Among Top 10 American Cities for Globalization by London, U.K.-based *fDi* (*Foreign Direct Investment*) Magazine and fDi Intelligence**

**PITTSBURGH (April 16, 2015)** – Pittsburgh will be recognized with three Top 10 American Cities of the Future awards. This news was announced on April 13, 2015 by the award presenters: *fDi*, the magazine focused on the business of globalization and fDi Intelligence, a major division of the London, U.K.-based [Financial Times Ltd](#), specializing in all areas relating for foreign direct investment (FDI) and investment promotion.

Among a select group of North and South American cities being recognized for assets and strengths that attract international investment and support globalization, Pittsburgh will receive Top 10 awards in the “large cities” category for economic potential, human capital and lifestyle and foreign direct investment strategy. The *fDi* 2015/16 American Cities of the Future awards will be presented at the International Economic Development Council’s (IEDC) 2015 conference, Oct. 4-7 in Anchorage, AK.

“Southwestern Pennsylvania, with Pittsburgh as the urban core at the heart of the region, is home to 394 foreign-owned firms including Ansaldo, BASF, LANXESS, Siemens, StarKist and Westinghouse Electric Co., that employ more than 53,000 people,” said [Pittsburgh Regional Alliance](#) President David Ruppertsberger. The Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA) is an [Allegheny Conference](#) affiliate charged with marketing the 10-county Pittsburgh regional for economic development. “Companies, both international and domestic, are noting the regional strengths that *fDi* considered for the awards and are casting votes of confidence with their investments.”

The PRA recently released its [2014 Regional Business Investment Scorecard](#), which is a snapshot of all announced business investment activity in the region during that year. There were a total of 274 announced investments representing \$2.3 billion in total capital investment. [Manufacturing](#), a legacy strength of southwestern Pennsylvania that put Pittsburgh on the world map as one of the largest producers of steel and metals in the world, [was the most active of the region’s five key industry sectors](#) considering the number of announced projects. There were 68 advanced manufacturing deals. Among the total deals were ones by foreign-owned firms such as [Carclo Technical Plastics](#), the largest division of plastics injection molding company Carclo, plc, a U.K.-based manufacturer of plastic products. And global giant General Electric will soon be breaking ground on a [Center for Additive Technology Advancement](#) (CATA) in the region. At an investment of \$32 million over three years, the center will be a hub for developing 3-D manufacturing technologies as the company looks to make its industrial businesses more efficient.

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*fDi* Intelligence selected its 2015/16 American Cities of the Future through a rigorous market research process. In total, 421 locations were analyzed for the study, and then data was collected for these locations under five categories: economic potential, business friendliness, human capital and lifestyle, cost effectiveness and connectivity. Locations scored up to a maximum of 10 points for each data point, which were weighted by importance to the FDI decision-making process. Top 10 lists were created for each of the main categories for major, large, small and micro cities.

In addition, surveys were collected under a sixth category, FDI Strategy. This category is qualitative and does not feed into overall results. There were 105 submissions from locations detailing their strategy for promoting FDI, which were then scored by *fDi*'s judging panel. Again, cities in the study were categorized according to population: micro, small, mid-sized, large and major.

“Since 2000, Pittsburgh has made more than 200 ‘best’ lists including recognition by national and international publications for [most livable place](#). Now, for a second time, *fDi* is recognizing Pittsburgh among North and South American locations with top-rated assets for foreign direct investment,” said Laura Karet, PRA Chairperson and CEO of the multi-state, multi-format retailer Giant Eagle Inc.

“Here in the Pittsburgh region, we continuously work in partnership with the public and private sectors and academia to compete and win, even as we create a new era of business innovation and growth. Pittsburgh is rich in legacy strengths around manufacturing, energy and business support services – which are all as critical to the regional economy today as they were 150 years ago. Today we’re intersecting these strengths with innovation and technology to develop the products and processes of the future, which keep southwestern Pennsylvania on the global radar for both domestic and international business investment,” said Karet.

Read [fDi's report](#) about the winners of the American Cities of the Future 2015/16.

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The **Pittsburgh Regional Alliance**, an affiliate of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, markets the benefits of conducting business in southwestern Pennsylvania to companies all over the world that are growing, relocating or expanding. For more information, visit [PittsburghRegion.org](http://PittsburghRegion.org).

The **Allegheny Conference on Community Development and Affiliates** – the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, the Pennsylvania Economy League of Greater Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance – work in collaboration with public and private sector partners to stimulate economic growth and improve the quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information, visit [AlleghenyConference.org](http://AlleghenyConference.org).

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