

Industry | Innovation | Technology | Opportunity | Community | Diversity

# MOMENTUM

Uniquely Macomb County, Michigan

## New Products, New Customers

Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill  
expands into a year-round operation

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## Selfridge:

A cornerstone of  
America's military  
and the county

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## Economic Development:

Macomb County  
businesses are thriving

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## Futuramic:

Setting its sights on  
Mars and beyond

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# Leader in Protection

## Incubator teaches security officials to recognize, counter cyber attacks

By Jane Peterson

It is no secret that the defense, automotive and advanced manufacturing sectors play a huge role in Macomb County's economy. The Velocity Hub of the Michigan Cyber Range serves these industries by helping educate businesses and start-up companies on how to protect themselves and their customers through cybersecurity efforts.

Developed by the Macomb-Oakland University INCubator and powered by the Merit Network, the Velocity Hub of the Michigan Cyber Range teaches cybersecurity officials how to recognize, eradicate and prevent potentially damaging cybersecurity attacks, said Larry Herriman, interim executive director of the Macomb-OU INCubator.

The initiative, which launched in March 2016, takes an innovative, multi-pronged approach to tackling cybersecurity issues. It offers more than 20 certificate training courses, product testing on early-stage projects, virtual rental space for companies interested in strengthening their cybersecurity and live training exercises, said Herriman.

"For many suppliers and vendors, cybersecurity is a hot bed of activity," he said. "Our goal is to empower entrepreneurs and business leaders on cybersecurity issues."

The Velocity Hub is the first of its kind in Michigan connected to a business accelerator, added Herriman. As part of the publicly-accessible hub, companies have the ability to test products for cybersecurity before they go on the market as well as identify other related issues with cybersecurity.

This is a county-wide collaboration between the Macomb-Oakland University INCubator, Michigan Defense Center of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, City of Sterling Heights, Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development, New Economy Initiative and the Michigan Automotive and Defense Cyber Assurance Team (MADCAT).

The Velocity Hub is located at 6633 18 Mile Road in Sterling Heights. As the tech industry continues to grow, this initiative is

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projected to have a lasting economic impact on Macomb County and secure the region as a leader in the area of cybersecurity. Other hubs are expected to open across Michigan in the future using the Macomb County hub as a model. **M**

Photos courtesy of The Velocity Hub of the Michigan Cyber Range

### CONNECT

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