

# El Centro Business Incubation Program

**The Incubator facility consists of approximately 10,000 sq ft. A big room for big business.**



Seven businesses, plus an administrative office occupies the incubator facility.

The incubator facility consists of approximately 10,000 square feet and is known as the **El Centro Business/Industrial Incubator Facility**. The facility is located at 703 Industry Way in El Centro, California. The facility has seven bays, which provide a combination of office and industrial space of approximately 1,200 square feet per bay. There are currently six private businesses operating at the facility that provide services ranging from air conditioning, computer repair, landscaping, janitorial, construction, and geotechnical services. There is also a vocational training center providing vocational training to individuals interested in opening construction-oriented businesses. In July 2006, the City of El Centro was awarded a \$57,800 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) under its Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program to establish a training/resource center at the facility that will facilitate the delivery of on-site business counseling and training. The funding will also be used to offer a certificated entrepreneurial program

known as the NxLevel Entrepreneurial Training Program. This training program consists of a 12-session, 36-hour business course designed to assist the incubator tenants to expand their business. During this course the incubator tenants will develop a comprehensive business plan that will act as their

road map for their future growth. The City is excited about the USDA grant award since it will provide the much needed business assistance to its incubator tenants and provide a business resource center that will provide immediate access to business information and services to its incubator tenants.

## Cool Breeze Air Conditioning

One person with years of air conditioning experience felt it was time to venture out on his own and start his own company. Mr. Augustin Miranda, owner of Cool Breeze Air Conditioning, worked for Locke Air Conditioning from 1979 until 2004, when he felt the entrepreneurial spirit and wanted to venture out on his own and start his own air conditioning company. For most of those twenty-five years, Mr. Miranda was the Locke Air Conditioning shop foreman.



Cool Breeze is established in Suite #8 at the incubator facility.

He supervised all sheet metal, air conditioner installations and supervised a crew from five to fifteen people at any given time. Shortly after starting out as a home-based business, Mr. Miranda learned of the new program and became the first incubator tenant. Mr. Miranda loves the location because he and his staff have easy access to Interstate 8, and Highway 111 and is close to his suppliers.