



Beast Code LLC, an employee owned and operated software engineering company, was founded in 2014 by seven computer scientists who used successful Silicon Valley based companies as a standard and adopted an agile workflow enabling them to rapidly produce cost effective solutions tailored to the user's needs. In 2016, Beast Code purchased a facility in Fort Walton Beach, projected to support the company's growth for five years. However, since then, Beast Code has been awarded several DoD contracts and operations have quickly scaled to 37 full time employees.



Beast Code considered several locations before ultimately deciding to expand into the Fort Walton Beach Commerce and Technology Park. This expansion will result in \$401,000 in new equipment purchases, a dedicated quality assurance area and collaborative work spaces. This will allow Beast Code to create 40 new jobs while attracting a young technology workforce.

To ensure that this investment and the resulting jobs occurred in Okaloosa County, the EDC coordinated an incentive package including economic development ad valorem tax exemptions from both Fort Walton Beach and Okaloosa County and a grant from the State of Florida through the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund program. Special appreciation goes to EDC investor Hancock Whitney who first connected Beast Code owners to the EDC. The company's rapid growth has landed it on Grow FL's list of 50 Florida "Companies to Watch".

"The Okaloosa Economic Development Council has been a huge source of support for Beast Code. Since the inception of our company in 2014, we have experienced rapid growth and are expected to employ over 100 hundred employees in the next few years. The opportunities presented by the OEDC and Governor Scott, will allow Beast Code to continue expanding its operations and provide greater support to the warfighter," said Matt Zimmermann, the company's CEO.