



Missile contractor sets up office at Fort Ritchie

CASCADE, Md. -- The former Fort Ritchie Army garrison at Cascade, Md., is renting to its first Defense contractor.

DJR Associates Inc., a missile engineering services firm, is relocating its corporate headquarters from Frederick, Md., to Fort Ritchie at Cascade, a 591-acre mixed-use development.

DJR signed a 3-year lease for 1,500 square feet in Building 504 and will employ 4 people who handle administrative functions. The company also has locations in Austin, Texas and Bristol, Tennessee.

"Seeing jobs return to Fort Ritchie is a wonderful thing," stated Timothy Troxell, executive director of the Hagerstown-Washington County Economic Development Commission and board member of PenMar Development Corporation. "The redevelopment of this property will have significant positive effects on the regional economy."

DJR has grown from sales of \$150,000 in 1996 to over \$1.7 million in fiscal 2005. The firm's primary customers have been non-profit research facilities supporting the U.S. Navy STANDARD Missile Program and the Missile Defense Agency.

Aspen Grove Inc., an independent property management firm, also has moved from Frederick, Md., to a small office in Building 607. It employs three people.

Two other small companies already call Fort Ritchie home - Microtech Solutions, an electronic engineering and software design firm and Indus Corporation, an information technology firm. Hagerstown Community College also has a branch.

Corporate Office Properties Trust of Columbia, Md., is redeveloping the former fort into 1.7 million square feet of office space and 673 residential units. The company recently opened a 21,000 square foot community center. COPT estimates more than 4,500 jobs will be created on the site over the next 20 years.

For more information about Aspen Grove Inc., visit www.aspengrove.net.

For more information about DJR Associates Inc. visit www.djrassoc.com.

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