

Members: [Log in](#) | Not Registered? [Register](#) for free extra services.

Meet the smartphone that's fluent in chirp.  
The BlackBerry® Curve™ 8350i smartphone with Nextel Direct Connect.™



**\$99.99**  
For new business lines.  
[Get it now](#)



Subscribe to Business First  
[Subscribe Today](#) | [Get A Free Trial](#)

# COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

Choose Another City:

Site | News | Videos | Jobs  
Keywords  [GO](#) [Search Archive](#)

HOME | NEWS | SMALL BUSINESS | SALES & MKTG | REAL ESTATE | EVENTS | COMMUNITY | CAREERS | TRAVEL | MORE TOPICS

Businesses For Sale | Local Biz Directory

[Classified](#) | [Daily e-mail updates](#) | [Book of Lists](#) | [Subscribe - 4 Free Issues](#)

**EXCLUSIVE REPORTS**

[Columbus](#) > [Print Edition](#) > [Industries](#) > [Manufacturing](#)

[Subscribe to Business First](#)

Friday, September 11, 2009

## Rail car plant may roll into Gahanna

Business First of Columbus - by [Adrian Burns](#)

[Print](#) | [Email](#) | [Reprints](#) | [RSS Feeds](#) | [Add to DeLicio.us](#) | [Digg This](#) | [Comments](#)

**Related News**

- [Dublin, Columbus schools get grants for diesel-cutting](#)
- [Local initiatives get Clean Diesel grants](#)
- [Designers bring outside eye to future of transit system in Central Ohio](#)
- [List of Ohio logistics projects wanting state stimulus money grows](#)
- [Federal earmark requests for Central Ohio hit \\$277M](#)

As many as 300 jobs could be coming to Gahanna if plans for a passenger rail car factory stay on track.

Columbus-based **Value Recovery Group Inc.** is seeking federal stimulus money and other incentives to help pay for a \$14.6 million plant on a brownfield site east of **Port Columbus International**



[View Larger](#)

**Airport.**

The company, which led the purchase of a Colorado rail car maker's assets in June, has launched **US Railcar LLC** in a bid to tap what's likely to be a passenger rail boom in coming years.

"If we can get the funding and everything comes together – and those decisions will be made before the end of the year – it will take us nine months to finish the plant. We own the property and it is shovel-ready," said Barry Fromm, CEO of Value Recovery, which buys troubled companies.

The proposed factory would be a boost for Central Ohio, which saw its unemployment rate top 9 percent over the summer, and also would bring the area a company that could be a key player in a passenger rail expansion planned by the federal government and states across the country.

"There is no back end, and you could produce (rail cars) forever and not make enough," said Bruce Richardson, president of the Jacksonville, Fla.-based United Rail Passenger Alliance Inc. think tank.

"They really don't have to do a whole lot other than prove they're willing to be a quality manufacturer at a reasonable price," he said.

**Seeking stimulus**

With federal approval in hand to manufacture diesel-powered rail cars, and the needed equipment sitting in 37 tractor-trailers, all US Railcar is waiting for is the funding it needs to build the factory, Fromm said.

"We are pursuing federal stimulus funding as it relates to rail. We have a very strong public partner," he said.

US Railcar is applying for \$8.7 million in federal stimulus funding from a \$1.5 billion pool of money targeted for an array of transportation-related projects. It's also seeking \$3.6 million in state aid.

Applications for the federal money are due Sept. 15.

The **Ohio Rail Development Commission**, part of the **Ohio Department of Transportation**, met Sept. 10 to consider sponsoring US Railcar's application.

Ohio is an ideal location for a rail car plant because of its work force, proximity to suppliers and planned passenger rail development, Fromm said, and because it's close to his Columbus base.

Click here for convention and group specials.



**Kalahari RESORTS**

Search for Jobs powered by onTargetJobs

 

[View Columbus Jobs - 913 jobs today](#)

**Sponsored Links**

**Rich Dad Poor Dad Columbus**  
Rich Dad Education Columbus. FREE financial workshops Sept 15 -17  
[www.richdadeducationseminars.com](#)

**Acai Berry EXPOSED (Official Test)**  
Want To Use Acai Berry? Do Not Use. Read This Warning Now.  
[News13TV.net](#)

**Acai Berry Side Effects?**  
In Our Shocking Special Report We Investigate Acai Berry  
[www.News8TV.net](#)

[Buy a link here](#)

**Find Executives**

[Value Recovery Group Inc.](#)

**SITE SECTIONS**

**Small Business Center**  
[Visit the Small Business Center](#)

**Sales & Marketing**  
[Visit the Sales & Marketing Center](#)

**Daily Update**  
[Sign up for the Daily Update](#)

**Company Watch**  
[Get started now](#)

[Featured Columbus Jobs](#) powered by

Preliminary plans call for building a factory on a portion of Gahanna's 191-acre Central Park site, which included a brick factory and landfill remediated by the city in partnership with Value Recovery Group, which owns the planned factory property.

The site is ideal because of its access to a Gahanna-owned rail spur, which would let the company bring in parts and test trains, Fromm said.

"It's a perfect setting," he said.

**No sure thing**

If the project gets funded, US Railcar plans to produce the cars using the facilities of an out-of-state company until the Gahanna factory is ready, Fromm said.

If it doesn't land the funding it needs, then it will continue to produce the rail cars through its partner, he said.

With so much public support for passenger rail, the odds of US Railcar getting funding are likely "better than 50-50," said Sadicka White, Gahanna's development director.

"We're excited," she said. "We're just encouraging the consideration by the state and of course the federal government with regard to stimulus funding."

Pages: [1](#) [2](#) [Continue Reading →](#)

[Contact the Editor](#) [Need Assistance?](#) [More Latest News →](#)

[Print](#) [Email](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Yahoo! Buzz](#)

**Most Read Stories**

- [Stock sale to complete Huntington capital drive](#)
- [Tartan Athletic Club at Corazon closes](#)
- [St. Ann's poised for \\$100M expansion](#)
- [Honda gives look at crossover Accord](#)
- [Worthington, Nationwide CEOs join OhioHealth board](#)

**Most Emailed Stories**

- [St. Ann's poised for \\$100M expansion](#)
- [Honda to build new Accord at East Liberty](#)
- [Rail car plant may roll into Gahanna](#)
- [State forms public-private pact for paperless medical records push](#)
- [Historical Society names new director](#)

**READER COMMENTS**

(0) Comments

You must be logged in to add a comment. Please [Login](#) or [Register](#).

**BUSINESS PULSE SURVEY**

Now that cash-for-clunkers has ended, do you expect to be in the market for a new car anytime soon?

- Yes, I expect to buy a new car soon.
- Yes, but I don't know when.
- No, not until the economy improves.
- No, I'm going to buy used from now on.

[Vote](#)

**CITY GUIDE SPOTLIGHT - COLUMBUS**



- [Attractions in Columbus](#)
- [Cocktails in Columbus](#)
- [Hotels in Columbus](#)
- [Restaurants in Columbus](#)

Sponsored by: **Sheraton**  
HOTELS & RESORTS

**Columbus Real Estate**

powered by [LoopNet](#)

**Featured Property**  
Price: \$3,995,000  
Building Size: 103,200 SF  
Use Type: Sale



[→ More Columbus Real Estate](#)

bizjournals Partners



**Small Business Center: Advice Library**

Check out Email Marketing expert, Gail Goodman, in our "Ask the Expert" series. Post your small business questions and see her video response. [Get your free advice now!](#)

**Search Press Releases**

- [View all Columbus Press Releases](#)
- [View ALL Press Releases](#)

Search by Company, Organization, or Keyword

[GO](#)

Content provided by PR Newswire. [Learn more about this service.](#)

- [View Open Opportunities - AT&T](#)
- [Major Account Executive / Software - Software Company](#)
- [Part Time Retail Sales Consultant, North Canton, OH](#)
- [Networking, Storage, and Services Sales Rep](#)
- [Medical Coding Manager](#)

[Search Jobs](#) | [Post Resume](#) | [View More](#)

[Post a Job](#) | [Feature a Job](#)

**SMALL BUSINESS CENTER**

Business profiles, funding news and advice related to small business

**Take a tour >**



SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYER

- Customer Service Representatives
- Retail Customer Support Representatives
- Retail Sales Representatives

We're on Facebook! Search "Verizon Wireless Careers", Become a Fan!

Apply online at: [www.vzwcareers.com](http://www.vzwcareers.com).

[Click to View Profile](#)

**Email Alerts**  
Get the latest local business news delivered to your inbox. [Sign up Today!](#)

[Columbus HelpWanted.com](#)

**Click here for convention and group specials.**

**Kalahari RESORTS**

**FEATURED WHITE PAPERS**

[White Paper: Click to Call: Giving Voice to Online Transaction](#)

Forrester Research identified click to call technology as one of the &qu...

[View Now](#)

[Agency Coordination for Integrated Marketing Campaigns](#)

Integrated campaigns involving both traditional and digital marketing ch...

[View Now](#)

[Corporate Blogging and Email Marketing: Why They Work Together](#)

Blogs are an ideal marketing tool to help you found in the search engine...

[View Now](#)

[View More Research](#)

Use of, or registration on, this site constitutes acceptance of our User Agreement and Privacy Policy.

**ONLINE:** [home](#) | [business news](#) | [small business](#) | [sales & marketing](#) | [real estate](#) | [events](#) | [community](#) | [careers](#) | [city guide](#) | [advertise](#) | [about us](#) | [rss](#)  
**PRINT:** [subscribe](#) | [renew](#) | [advertise](#) | [book of lists](#) | [business intelligence](#) | [classifieds](#) | [view digital edition](#) | [article reprints rights](#) | [purchase single copies](#)

**AFFILIATES:** [Portfolio](#) | [SportsBusiness Journal](#) | [SportsBusiness Daily](#) | [Sporting News](#) | [Mass High Tech](#)

© 2009 [American City Business Journals](#), Inc. and its licensors. All rights reserved. The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of bizjournals.