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Ohio Takes Lead in Cybersecurity & Analytics *Third Frontier Supports Private Partners*

Today the Ohio Third Frontier Commission approved \$5 million to support the Columbus Collaboratory, a multiple industry partnership to make Ohio a leader in advanced analytics and cybersecurity.

"This project showcases what Ohio Third Frontier does best – bringing companies together to solve high-tech problems, while creating jobs," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission.

The Columbus Collaboratory will create 100 new jobs over the next five years. A \$20 million investment will come from American Electric Power, Battelle, Cardinal Health, Huntington Bank, L Brands, Nationwide and OhioHealth.

"The Collaboratory is a promising opportunity to showcase the strengths of the Central Ohio business community," said Martin Inglis, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Battelle. "By drawing on our collective capabilities and with an eye toward the future, we can leverage employment and education through aligned and innovative approaches to data analytics and cybersecurity."

The project establishes a central location where companies can work together and develop tools to perform advanced analytics and improve cybersecurity.

"The companies that are investing in the Columbus Collaboratory are committed to the success and economic development of the Columbus Region," said Mike Keller, executive vice president and chief information officer for Nationwide. "By working together in the fields of data analytics and cyber security, we will make each of our companies more successful, while growing high value jobs in the region."

The Columbus Collaboratory will have the prestige to attract top talent, and the place to develop a highly skilled workforce in Ohio for current and future business needs.

"This rapidly expanding field of data science is an important industry for the Columbus Region," said Kenny McDonald, Columbus 2020 chief economic officer. "This unprecedented collaboration speaks to the commitment of the public/private partnership here in Ohio to attract jobs, investment and talented people to our state."

State funding for the project comes from the Ohio Third Frontier Technology Asset Grant Program.

The Technology Asset Grant Program was established in 2013 by Ohio Third Frontier to support infrastructure for an underlying industry, where companies come together to collaborate or solve a common technical problem. State funding supports the facility and requires a 3:1 cash match.

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