

## Business expansion report: 17 new buildings or projects in '10

**MANKATO** — There were 117 new building or renovation projects completed or started in Blue Earth and Nicollet counties in 2010, according to a report by Greater Mankato Growth.

Of the projects, 65 were completed in 2010. Just fewer than half, 54, were new businesses that either built or renovated an existing location.

Square footage and construction costs were not available for roughly half of the projects. But, of those reporting, 2.1 million square feet of new structures and additions were added.

Total construction costs for all projects for which financial information is available were estimated at \$152 million.

Those in the professional and service sector had 54 of the projects, the retail and consumer sector added 44, and 19 came from other types of businesses.

“Even as our region has been impacted by national economic challenges, these new projects and expansions demonstrate that we have continued to grow in Greater Mankato,” GMG President and CEO Jonathan Zierdt said in a statement.

The full 2010 Business Expansion Report is available at [greatermankato.com/business-newbusiness.php](http://greatermankato.com/business-newbusiness.php).

— *Tim Krohn*