

Date: Aug 17, 2010; Section: Hampton Roads; Page: B3

VIRGINIA BEACH

CONSULTING COMPANY TO EXPAND ITS OPERATIONS

planning to grow

Klett Consulting Group plans to hire 20 workers locally, invest \$350,000 in improvements to its building, and hire 10 workers in Northern Virginia.

By Josh Brown

The Virginian-Pilot

VIRGINIA BEACH

A small business that provides engineering consulting for the defense industry plans to hire 20 workers and invest hundreds of thousands of dollars at its site on North Landing Road, city officials plan to announce today.

Klett Consulting Group, which was formed in 2002 by military veteran Mark Klett, plans to spend \$350,000 in improvements to its building. In addition to the local jobs, the company also plans to hire 10 workers in Northern Virginia. The local jobs will have salaries of \$80,000 on average, city officials said.

"They're small with tremendous growth potential," said Warren Harris, the city's economic development director.

Harris said small businesses such as Klett Consulting have long accounted for much of the growth and expansion of jobs in the community.

"They are tied to defense and the military, and that is such an important target industry for us," Harris said.

The company, which already employs a dozen workers locally, has won numerous contracts from the Navy and NATO, according to its website.

Klett Consulting is applying for a \$35,000 grant in economic development funds to use for employee training. The Virginia Beach Development Authority is expected to vote today on the company's application.

Josh Brown, (757) 446-2318,

josh.brown@pilotonline.com