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## **Banner Innovation Group Leases New Space at SkySong**

*Company Working on Front Lines of COVID-19 Response to  
Secure Personal Protective Equipment for Medical Professionals*

**SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.** (April 6, 2020) — SkySong, The ASU Innovation Center, is now home to a company on the front lines of the fight against the COVID-19 virus.

Banner Innovation Group, a department within Banner Health focused on purposeful and disciplined innovation, has leased a new space at SkySong. Banner Health formed the Banner Innovation Group to innovate care delivery and business models, patient experiences, development of transformative partnerships and rapid scaling of solutions.

During the current public health crisis, Banner Innovation Group is partnering with public and private sector groups to meet the growing demand for supplies for health care professionals, including personal protective equipment, 3D printing of masks and face shields and gown manufacturing options.

Banner Innovation Group had been looking at a presence in SkySong for months, but with their new 8,300-square-foot space in SkySong 2 now in place, they are able to collaborate with Plaza Companies and Holualoa Companies to meet the growing crisis. They also have an extensive relationship with Arizona State University which will expand over time as part of their presence at SkySong.

“Banner Innovation Group is committed to improving the quality of health care through purposeful and disciplined innovation and the relationship that exists between SkySong and ASU grants us access to some of the brightest minds in the industry,” said Banner Innovation Group Executive Director Christine Anderson. “In this time of crisis, the partnership between Banner Innovation Group, ASU and SkySong has been particularly beneficial.”

The new space for Banner Innovation Group consolidates two spaces that were on opposite ends of the Valley.

“Not only does this exemplify what ASU and Plaza Companies envisioned for SkySong tenants, it serves as a great example of community leadership coming together in a time of crisis,” said Sharon Harper, Chairman and CEO of Plaza Companies. “Banner Innovation Group will play an

important role in Arizona’s COVID-19 response and we are pleased to be able to support them now and in the future.”

“The SkySong team prides itself on being able to act quickly and be responsive to the needs of our tenants,” said Stan Shafer, Chief Operating Officer of Holualoa Companies, one of the partners in SkySong. “The kind of collaboration you’re seeing with Banner Innovation Group is one of the distinguishing features of SkySong.”

The Coppola Cheney Group of Lee & Associates, SkySong’s leasing broker represented the property ownership group. Banner Innovation Group was represented by Vicki Robinson of Jones LaSalle Lang in the SkySong transaction.

“We continue to be pleased with the growth and expansion at SkySong, and are looking forward to expanding our work with Banner Innovation Group,” said Sethuraman Panchanathan, executive vice president of Knowledge Enterprise and chief research and innovation officer at ASU. “We welcome Banner Innovation Group to the project, and are gratified to support their efforts to preserve public health and respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

SkySong is a 42-acre mixed use development designed to:

- Create an ecology of collaboration and innovation among high-profile technology enterprises and related researchers;
- Advance global business objectives of on-site enterprises;
- Raise Arizona’s profile as a global center of innovation through co-location of ASU’s strategic global partners; and
- Create a unique regional economic and social asset.

Companies located at SkySong have the opportunity to partner with Arizona State University, which has more than 100,000 students studying across four metropolitan Phoenix campuses, in Lake Havasu City, Los Angeles, Washington D.C. ASU is one of the largest public universities in the nation, with the majority of its students attending its campus in Tempe, Arizona, less than three miles from SkySong.

In addition to locating its own innovative research units at the center, through ASU’s on-site operations, tenant companies have a single point of contact for introductions to researchers, faculty and programs to address their specific needs.

For more information on SkySong, visit [SkySong.com](https://www.skysong.com) or follow developments on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/skysong).

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### **About SkySong**

Plaza Companies is the developer of the project in partnership with Arizona State University Foundation, the City of Scottsdale and Holualoa Companies. Lee and Associates provides the brokerage services and Plaza del Rio Management Corporation provides the property management and construction services. Architects at SkySong include Pei Cobb Fried and Partners, DMJM Design, Butler Design Group and Kendle Design Collaborative.

**About Plaza Companies**

With offices in Peoria, Scottsdale and Tucson, Plaza Companies is a full-service real estate firm specializing in the management, leasing and development of medical office and commercial office properties, technology and bioscience facilities, mixed-use properties and senior housing communities. Since 1982, Plaza Companies has established a proud track record as a competitive, connected and conscientious real estate firm with partnerships throughout the industries it serves. For more information, visit [www.theplazaco.com](http://www.theplazaco.com).

**About University Realty**

University Realty is a subsidiary of ASU Enterprise Partners, an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to generating resources for the benefit of Arizona State University. [www.asuenterprisepartners.org](http://www.asuenterprisepartners.org)

**About Holualoa Companies**

Holualoa Companies is a real estate investment firm focused on the successful acquisition, repositioning, redevelopment and disposition of real estate assets. Headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, with offices in Phoenix, Santa Monica, Hawaii and Paris, its investments span the United States and Europe and include office, retail, industrial, multi-family, hotel and mixed-use investment properties. Holualoa is an experienced investor for its own account and on behalf of a select group of private investors.

**About the City of Scottsdale**

Scottsdale is one of the state's leading job centers, with a diverse economy built on medical research, high-tech innovation, tourism and corporate headquarters. Scottsdale is home to nearly 18,000 businesses supplying over 150,000 jobs. The high-tech innovation center SkySong, located just a few miles from Downtown, is designed to help companies grow through a unique partnership with nearby Arizona State University. The Scottsdale Cure Corridor is a partnership of premier health care providers and biomedical companies seeking to advance medicine and patient care through cutting-edge research. For more information, visit [ChooseScottsdale.com](http://ChooseScottsdale.com).