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**2015 Real Estate Market Forum**  
 The Spokane-Kootenai Real Estate Research Committee  
**February 26, 2015 @ Coeur d'Alene Resort**  
 KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Jim Hammond, City Administrator, City of Coeur d'Alene  
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**JOURNAL OF BUSINESS**  
 Serving Spokane & Kootenai Counties  
 Morning Edition  
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015

## YOUR MORNING NEWS

**Pullman:**

### Zentz named to WSU post

Washington State University said it has named Kim Zentz, former CEO of the Innovate Washington Foundation and a prominent business and civic leader here, to serve as director of its engineering and technology management program. A WSU alumna, Zentz has held a number of leadership positions in the utilities, alternative energy technology, economic development and transportation sectors, including serving as head of the Spokane Intercollegiate Research & Technology Institute. She succeeds longtime director John Ringo, who retired recently after 42 years with the college.

**Spokane:**

### Water-from-air company finishes installation

Ambient Water Inc., the Spokane-based maker of systems that produces pure drinking water from humidity in the air, said it has completed the first-ever commercial installation of its Ambient Water 400 atmospheric water generation system. It installed the system at an Applied Cryo Technologies facility in Houston, and has posted images and a video of the system installation on its website. Applied

## TOMORROW

### Good Morning Greater Spokane: International Trade

Where: Riverside Place  
1108 W. Riverside.

When: 7 a.m to 9:30 a.m.

Cost: \$25

Speaker Eric Schinfeld, president of the Washington Council on International Trade, will present the "State of Trade in Washington" and discuss trade policy issues important to Washington state companies when doing business internationally.

Contact: Kevin Proctor  
at [kproctor@archbright.com](mailto:kproctor@archbright.com)

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## REPORTER'S CHOICE

by Mike McLean

Cryo, which is based in Houston, makes equipment used in the liquefied natural gas industry. Ambient Water told the Journal last November that it is exploring markets for its technology and hopes to eventually provide large, industrial bulk water systems for oil and gas companies.

**Bellevue:**

**Software company K2 raises \$100 million**

Bellevue-based software company K2 said it has raised "well over" \$100 million from a California private equity firm. The influx of cash will enable the cloud company to remain private, rather than filing for an initial public offering, which it had considered when it began the fundraising process about 10 months ago. K2 offers IT departments a platform to build business apps without the need to write computer code. K2 CEO Adriaan van Wyk said that as more internal company processes have become automated, demand has risen sharply for this kind of platform to help IT departments keep up with the software their companies need. (*Puget Sound Business Journal*)



**Testing laboratory relocates**

Tshimakain Creek Labs LLC, a Wellpinit-based water and drug testing laboratory has leased 1,400 square feet of space at 5503 E. Broadway and has moved its Spokane-area operations there from similarly sized quarters at 11616 E. Montgomery. Todd Rothrock of Rothrock, Co., and Doug Byrd, of Byrd Real Estate Group LLC, handled the transaction.

**RECOGNITION**

**Quality Inn downtown honored**

Quality Inn Downtown 4th Ave., at 110 E. 4th, has received a 2015 gold hospitality award from Choice Hotels International, which puts it among the top 10 percent of the



Empire Unmanned LLC, a new venture headquartered at Hayden-based Empire

Airlines, is adapting drone technology to help farmers target problems with crops so they can reduce or eliminate anomalies in the field before harvest time. To add to the cool factor, Empire Unmanned is the first and only company authorized by the Federal Aviation Industry to use unmanned aerial vehicles for commercial agricultural applications. To learn how the gee-whiz technology, some of which originally was developed for the military, is becoming a farming aid, go **HERE**.

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6,300 Choice Hotels nationwide, says Travis Tramp, district manager. The awarded is presented annually to the top hotels within the Quality Inn brand, based on guest satisfaction and quality assurance ratings.



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