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THE CLARKSDALE

Press Register

SERVING THE DELTA SINCE 1865



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24 PAGES IN ONE SECTION CLARKSDALE, MS \$1

PeopleShores partnerships Opportunity for success

Automation Anywhere brings RPA business, jobs to Clarksdale

Floyd Ingram
The Press Register

PeopleShores of Clarksdale took two big steps Friday on its journey to bring the Silicon Valley to the Mississippi Delta. PeopleShores announced the opening of its new Robotic Process Automation Center for Excellence in collaboration with Automation Anywhere and that one of their first clients will be Mississippi’s own Horne CPA.

The announcement was made in front a room packed with more than 300 people from San Jose, Calif.; Houston, Texas; New York City; and of course, Clarksdale.

“By providing access to RPA (Robotic Process Automation) training, PeopleShores associates from a range of educational, ethnic and social backgrounds are empowered to expand their skills,” said Murali Vullaganti, founder of PeopleShores. “(This will) improve income thresholds and transfer that knowledge to organizations looking to automate end-to-end business processes to improve business productivity.”

PeopleShores and Automation Anywhere will basically create software that allows businesses to computerize processes that are normally done manually.

Horne Marketing Director Bruce Walt said Horne CPA has been amazed at what PeopleShores and Automation



Floyd Ingram / Clarksdale Press Register

The ribbon was snipped on the Delta Center of Excellence for RPA Friday in Clarksdale. Shown are , from left, Jon Livingston, executive of the Economic Development Authority of Coahoma County; Darryl Pieroni, PeopleShores business development; Murali Vullaganti, founder of PeopleShores, Dr. Mike McGrevey, Interim Director of MDA, Supervisor Johnny Newson: Mihir Shukla, co-founder and CEO of Automation Anywhere; Mayor Chuck Espy; Neeti Mehta, co-founder of Automation Anywhere: Mark Mayo, Executive Vice President, Transform AI; Mitzi Woods, Director of Delta Workforce Area: and Coahoma Community College President Dr. Valmadge Towner.

Anywhere are doing to improve performance and accuracy in business processes.

“Let me explain,” said Walt. “We had a payroll process that took one person four hours a month to enter and complete. It is now done in 10-seconds.”

And Horne said as business advisors, they plan to tell their clients about PeopleShores and how RPA can save them both money and time.

RPA is a technology that uses

software robots or “bots” that work side-by-side with human workers to automate repetitive, mundane business tasks, freeing up employees to focus on more strategic work.

“Intelligent automation isn’t just about efficiency – at the core, its impact is human,” said Mihir Shukla, co-founder and CEO of Automation Anywhere. “Automation Anywhere is helping to bridge Silicon Valley with the Mississippi Delta and

break the generational cycle of poverty in one of the nation’s poorest regions.

The RPA Center, at PeopleShores’ 1540 Desoto Avenue location, will serve as a research, design and development base for RPA and is expected to generate hundreds of high-value, high tech-enabled jobs in the Delta.

“The RPA Center of Excellence is the first of its kind

Mihir Shukla urges kids to dream big

Floyd Ingram
The Press Register

He grew up in a town not much bigger than Clarksdale and his dream is to offer children in this community an opportunity to follow their dream and share some of the immense success he has enjoyed.

Mihir Shukla, co-founder and CEO of Automation Anywhere, grew up in a town of about 24,000 near Palanpuy, India. His company, Automation Anywhere, announced a major partnership with People Shores and Horne CPA in Clarksdale Friday.



Shukla

“This facility has the potential to train your young people in cutting-edge technology,” said Shukla. “It really is my dream to see a boy or girl from Clarksdale grasp what we are doing here and become even more successful.”

Shukla said he grew up poor, but studied hard, got to go to college and came to the United States where he founded a small technology start-up. He created and sold five businesses and founded his latest company in 2003, rebranding it as Automation Anywhere in 2010.

“We are steadfast in our commitment to provide RPA (Robotic Process Automation) training to help break the generational cycle of poverty in Coahoma County,” said Shukla, “and believe we can change the blueprint for how government and the private sector approaches employment challenges by providing new career paths that align with the kinds of skills companies

Community urged to practice virus hygiene

Simple tips reduce risk of infection

Floyd Ingram
The Press Register

The national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) continue to closely monitor an outbreak of respiratory illnesses

caused by coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in Wuhan, China.

As of Wednesday morning there were more than 100 confirmed cases in the United States with 44 of those requiring hospitalization and nine have been fatal.

The CDC said Wednesday that

12 states have reported cases, but Mississippi was not on that list. Florida was the only state in the South at this time to have recorded a case of the virus.

Coronavirus cases have now spread from China to many countries around the world. While there is no sustained person-to-person spread in the United States, the CDC and MSDH are working

to detect, contain and limit the spread of possible cases in the U.S. and Mississippi should they occur.

MSDH is actively working with doctors and hospitals on how to respond safely and effectively to any case of COVID-19 in Mississippi.

In a prepared statement the CDC has said people need to be

aware the risk of contracting the virus.

“More cases of COVID-19 are likely to be identified in the coming days, including more cases in the United States,” the CDC said. “It’s also likely that person-to-person spread will continue to occur, including in communities in the United States. It’s likely that at


SEE VIRUS PAGE 19



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Software bits

What is a software bot?

A software bot is a type of software agent in the service of software project management and software engineering. A software bot has an identity and potentially personified aspects in order to serve their stakeholders.

Software bots often compose software services and provide an alternative user interface, which is sometimes, but not necessarily conversational.

Software bots are typically used to execute tasks, suggest actions, engage in dialogue, and promote social and cultural aspects of a software project.

The term bot is derived from robot. However, robots act in the physical world and software bots act only in digital spaces.

Benefits of RPA technology

- **Efficiency:** The software robots are highly efficient they can operate 24/7 without taking any break.
- **Accuracy:** In order to carry out data entry task, the robots can perform it in the same way as the human beings without making any mistakes.
- **Cost Reduction:** The software robots help to reduce the organizations cost.
- **Enhanced audit and monitoring compliance:** A detail audit logs are offered by the robots by allowing the advanced business analytics and enhanced compliance.

Mihir Shukla’s favorite quote

“Make things as simple as possible, but no simpler.”
- Albert Einstein.

What is RPA technology?

“RPA is a technology that allows you to type on any application, read any application screens, apply set of rules, and with artificial intelligence make decisions.

What it means is that bots can operate any software application in the world because it is able to do what any human being is able to do except making judgment calls. And when you think about it, banks, insurance companies, logistic companies, have thousands and thousands of people sitting in cubicles doing something, and not everybody is making a judgment call.

That’s why, with RPA, and for the first time ever, you are able to automate this vast amount of work.”

- Mihir Shukla,
CEO of Automation Anywhere.

Related Links

www.automationanywhere.com
www.peopleshores.com
www.hornellp.com

PeopleShores

Continued from Page 1

in this part of the United States,” said Jon Levingston, Executive Director of the Economic Development Authority of Coahoma County. “The fact that these outstanding companies chose Clarksdale, in the Mississippi Delta, is a testament to their belief in our labor force.”

Levingston said while these new partnerships and companies will provide jobs is a priority, they will change the economic climate in the Delta.

“The educational opportunities, combined with the work opportunities, represents a breakthrough in the effort to stop depopulation and create more financial sustainability for families living in our communities,” Levingston explained. “We could not be more grateful to Mihir Shukla and Neeti Mehta of



Floyd Ingram / Press Register

City and county officials presented the Key to Clarksdale to Automation Anywhere founders Neeti Mehta and Mihir Shukla at Friday ceremony.

Automation Anywhere, Murali Vullaganti of PeopleShores and Joey Havens of the Home Group, for providing a chance for families to break the genera-

tional cycles of poverty that have plagued families in this region for almost two centuries.”

PeopleShores, a leader in impact sourcing, opened their

Clarksdale operations in March 2019 with support from local, state and federal agencies and has now expanded the program to retrain associates to deliver RPA services to businesses.

The program anticipates training 200 associates from across the region.

About PeopleShores

PeopleShores is a for profit social enterprise with a charter to empower disadvantaged individuals in underserved communities in the US by providing digital skills and dignified jobs. It establishes technology centers in communities such as inner cities, distressed rural areas and near military bases with large veterans’ population.

The center employs local aspiring individuals, trains them on hi-tech skills and engages them in the delivery of digital transformation and technology enabled services to its corporate customers.

PeopleShores provides individuals from challenged backgrounds with paid training and a full-time job with benefits including medical insurance and paid leave.



Floyd Ingram / Press Register

PeopleShores founder Murali Vullaganti smiled as he announced a new partnership with Silicon Valley’s Automation Anywhere and Mississippi-based Horne CPA Friday at PeopleShores on Desoto Avenue in Clarksdale.



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