

THE LIST FOREIGN-OWNED COMPANIES



RICHARD CAPPETTA
Chief Executive and President
MicroVention Inc.



PHILIPPE CARETTE
Chief Executive of InFlyt Experience
Thales Avionics Inc.



PETE KLAES
Vice President and General Manager
B. Braun Medical Inc.



MASAHIRO MORO
Chief Executive and President
Mazda North American Operations



HIDEO NAKANO
Chief Executive
Panasonic Avionics Corp.



SEUNGKYU 'SEAN' YOON
Chief Executive and President
Kia Motors America Inc.

Foreign Firms' Employment Flat, With Exceptions

Automakers Hiring, Big Names Come and Go

By PAUL HUGHES

The biggest foreign-owned firms in Orange County by employment saw little change in their combined workforce in 2018, but specific companies and industries made notable moves and what the list doesn't reflect, at least not yet, could be even more influential on the group.

The 36 largest firms employ about 27,000 local workers—down one-tenth of 1% from a year ago, according to data provided by the companies and Business Journal estimates.

The big-four—Lake Forest-based **Panasonic Avionics Corp.**, Irvine-based **B. Braun Medical Inc.**, Foothill Ranch-anchored **Oakley Inc.**, and **Zodiac Aerospace**, with a presence in Huntington Beach—retained their spots.

B. Braun, a medical device maker owned by a German firm, showed the biggest hike, adding 182 for a 10.7% gain.

Local Hires

Other companies hiring locally include:

■ No. 8, **Microvention Inc.**, a Japan-owned medical device maker that moved from Tustin to a newly-built office in Aliso Viejo a little more than a year ago, up 3.6%.



B. Braun: medical firm's local ops approaching 1,900 workers

■ No. 10, **Allianz**, the parent company of financial giant **Pacific Investment Management Co.** in Newport Beach, up 3.5%.

■ No. 16, **Meggitt PLC**, a U.K.-based aerospace engineering firm in Irvine, up 5%.

■ No. 21, **GKN PLC**, an aerospace manufacturer with multiple locations in OC that was bought last year by U.K.-based **Melrose Industries PLC** for more than \$10 billion, was up 8%.

An industry that showed growth locally is automotive manufacturing, led by No. 19 **Karma Automotive LLC** in Irvine. It hired a tick above 100 workers, and produced the largest percentage gain on the list at more than 26%.

Karma added workers in its high-voltage battery and electrical engineering work, and as of November had about 50 open jobs posted on its website, from public relations to IT.

The maker of Revero, a luxury electric car, is owned by a Chinese firm but has its local HQ at a 262,000-square-foot building in the Spectrum area.

Other OC carmakers saw gains as well as

losses in employees: No. 18 **Mazda** and No. 23 **Kia** each added about 35 workers for growth of 6.6% and 9.4%, respectively. No. 20 **Hyundai** cut 15 for a decline of 3.1% and No. 33 **Mitsubishi** was flat.

Hyundai and Kia also shook-up their executive ranks, hiring new local chiefs; Karma recently added two marketing executives, including one formerly with **Aston Martin's** local operations in Irvine and one from L.A.-based electric vehicle startup **Faraday Future**.

Unseen

What the list doesn't show—or not yet—is nearly as notable as what it does.

Some of the big OC names aren't on the list anymore and others may join or leave it within the year.

■ Last year's No. 5 **Broadcom Inc.**, formerly based in Singapore, took up U.S. residency in San Jose and dropped off the list. It still employs more than 1,000 workers at its digs near the Orange County Great Park.

■ **Billabong USA** also dropped off the list. Huntington Beach-based **Boardriders Inc.** bought the apparel maker in April.

■ A company not on the list is **BlackBerry** smartphone maker **TCL Communication** in Irvine. It's Chinese-owned and employs about 125 locally—below our cutoff of at least 200 local workers.

TCL made headlines earlier this month when the Wall Street Journal reported that a weather app it makes had been "collecting an unusual amount of data from smartphones around the world," then subscribing users to paid services without permission.

It licenses the BlackBerry name and security elements for smartphones, but is otherwise unrelated to Canada-based software maker **BlackBerry Ltd.**, which is paying \$1.4 billion for Irvine-based **Cylance Inc.** in a deal expected to close by March—and add a prominent name to the list of foreign-owned companies in OC.

A possible future departure is venerable tech firm **Ingram Micro Inc.** at No. 14—with 900 local employees, flat year-over-year—owned by China-based **HNA Group Co.**

HNA is shopping the firm, with New York-based alternative asset operator **Apollo Global Management** mentioned recently as a possible buyer in numerous national news reports.

Notables

One company that reported lower employment was Japan-owned shoe and apparel maker **Asics America Corp.** in Irvine, which clocks in at No. 36 with 224 employees, down 2%—five workers—on the year.

We note OC's **Toshiba** units, ranked No. 22, also have fewer employees than a year ago, but as a Business Journal estimate, aren't given as a percentage decline.

Some of the local cuts came from Toshiba selling its PC business to **Sharp Corp.**, also in Japan—which kept the Toshiba brand name for those products, and some workers locally.

In addition to moves at OC carmakers, two companies—No. 5 **Thales Avionics** in Irvine and No. 24 **Yamaha Corp. of America** in Buena Park, the world's largest musical instrument maker—brought on new local executives. ■



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Hotel Meeting Rooms

Rank	Company •Address Rank	Company logo	OC employees •yearly % change	Orange County operations	Company/product description	Parent company •Headquarters	Top local official(s) •Title •Phone/fax	
1 (1)	Panasonic Avionics Corp. 26200 Enterprise Way Lake Forest 92630-8400 Website: panasonic.aero		2,352 1%	Panasonic Avionics Corp.	Inflight entertainment systems and communications	Panasonic Corp. Kadoma, Japan	Hideo Nakano CEO (949) 672-2000/(949) 462-7100	
2 (2)	B. Braun Medical Inc. 2525 McGaw Ave. Irvine 92614-5841 Website: bbraunusa.com		1,891 11%	B. Braun Medical Inc.	Intravenous solutions, drug delivery containers and solutions, irrigation products	B. Braun Melsungen AG Melsungen, Germany	Pete Klaes VP/general manager (949) 660-2030	
3 (3)	Oakley Inc. 1 Icon Foothill Ranch 92610-3000 Website: oakley.com		1,700 0%	Oakley headquarters, operations	Sunglasses, prescription glasses, goggles, apparel, footwear and accessories	Luxottica Group SPA Milan, Italy	NA ⁽¹⁾ (949) 672-6925	
4 (4)	Zodiac Aerospace 5701 Bolsa Ave. Huntington Beach 92647-2063 Website: zodiacaerospace.com		1,380 ⁽²⁾ NA	Zodiac Pacific Precision Products, Zodiac Galleys USA, Zodiac OEM Cabin Interiors, Zodiac Electrical Inserts USA, Zodiac Inflight Innovations	Aircraft interiors	Safran S.A. France	Vincent Mascré chairman, executive board/CEO, Zodiac Seats (714) 934-0000/(714) 934-0088	
5 (7)	Experian 475 Anton Blvd. Costa Mesa 92626-7037 Website: experian.com		1,300 0%	North American headquarters, credit services, decision analytics, Experian Marketing Services, Experian Consumer Services	Information services company, provides data and analytical tools	Experian PLC Dublin, Ireland	Craig Boundy CEO, Experian North America	
5 (7)	Thales Avionics Inc. 58 Discovery Irvine 92618-3105 Website: thalesgroup.com		1,300 0%	Thales Avionics Inc.	In-flight entertainment systems	Thales Group France	Philippe Carette CEO, InFlyt Experience (949) 790-2500/(949) 790-2998	
7 (9)	MUFG Union Bank 18300 Von Karman Ave. Irvine 92612-1046 Website: unionbank.com		1,225 ⁽²⁾ NA	Branch banking, wealth markets, business banking, commercial banking, real estate industries; loan, bank and risk operations	Bank	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc. Tokyo	Stuart Bernstein/Todd Hollander/Scott Connella ⁽³⁾ head of branch and private banking/ head of business banking/managing director, Southern California commercial banking	

Abbreviations: NA: not applicable; wnd: would not disclose
Photos show first top official listed

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⁽¹⁾ Oakley does not designate a top local official; the Oakley brand has been integrated into Luxottica and all aspects of the business report to the team in Milan

⁽²⁾ Business Journal estimate

⁽³⁾ MUFG Union Bank's top officials include: Mike Feldman, head of wealth markets; William Chatham, head of real estate industries, Union Bank; Robbin Narike Preciado, regional president, consumer banking; Brian Mulvaney, managing director and regional manager for commercial banking's middle market and business banking activities in Orange County

Researched by Meghan Kliever

► *Continued on page 12*

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▶ NEXT WEEK'S LISTS
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▶ From page 11

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8	(12)	MicroVention Inc. 35 Enterprise Aliso Viejo 92656-2601 Website: microvention.com		1,200 4%	MicroVention Inc.	Medical device manufacturer	Terumo Corp. Tokyo	Richard Cappetta CEO/president (714) 247-8000/(949) 680-4287	
9	(10)	Alcon Research Ltd. 15800 Alton Parkway Irvine 92618-3818 Website:alcon.com		1,100 ⁽²⁾ NA	Alcon Research Ltd.	R&D, manufacturing, technical support for eye devices	Novartis AG Basel, Switzerland	Rob Scott VP, technology transfer, surgical R&D (949) 753-1393	
10	(6)	Allianz 680 Newport Center Drive, Ste. 250 Newport Beach 92660-4046 Website:allianz.com		1,048 3%	Pacific Investment Management Co.	Investment management; business, personal insurance	Allianz SE Munich, Germany	Oliver Bäte CEO (949) 219-2200/(949) 219-3949	
11	(14)	T-Mobile USA Inc. 350 Commerce, Ste. 200 Irvine 92602-1304 Website:t-mobile.com		1,018 0%	T-Mobile USA Inc.	Cellphones, wireless plans	Deutsche Telekom AG Bonn, Germany	Sam Sindha senior VP, retail (Southwest Area) (800) 318-9270	
12	(13)	Schneider Electric 26561 Rancho Parkway S. Lake Forest 92630-8301 Website:schneider-electric.com/us		976 ⁽²⁾ NA	Schneider Electric	Energy management and automation	Schneider Electric France	Jean-Pascal Tricoire chairman/CEO (949) 727-3200/(949) 639-1469	
13	(11)	Canon U.S.A. Inc. 15975 Alton Parkway Irvine 92618-3731 Website:usa.canon.com		944 ⁽²⁾ NA	Canon U.S.A. Inc., Canon Development Americas Inc., Canon Solutions America, Canon Medical Systems U.S.A.	Copiers, printers, consumer electronics, medical devices	Canon Inc. Tokyo	Joe Adachi chairman/CEO (844) 443-4636	
14	(14)	Ingram Micro Inc. 3351 Michelson Drive, Ste. 100 Irvine 92612-0697 Website:ingrammicro.com		900 0%	Headquarters, operations, sales, customer service, IS support, technology solutions and products	Wholesale provider of technology products and supply chain services	HNA Group Co. Haikou, China	Alain Monié/Gina Mastantuono/ Augusto Aragon/Scott Sherman CEO/CFO/executive VP, secretary, general counsel/executive VP, human resources (714) 566-1000/(714) 566-7900	
15	(18)	TowerJazz 4321 Jamboree Road Newport Beach 92660-3007 Website:towerjazz.com		820 ⁽²⁾ NA	TowerJazz	Wafer foundry	Tower Semiconductor Ltd. Migdal Haemek, Israel	Russell Ellwanger/Marco Racanelli CEO/senior VP, general manager of RF/high performance analog and US aerospace & defense business groups, Newport Beach site manager (949) 435-8000/(949) 435-8757	
16	(20)	Meggitt PLC Atlantic House, Aviation Park West, Bournemouth International Airport Christchurch BH23 6EW Website:meggitt.com		715 5%	Meggitt Defense Systems Inc., Meggitt Sensing Systems Inc.	Specializes in design, manufacture, integration and operation of gun and missile scoring systems and services; sensing and monitoring systems that measure physical parameters in extreme environments	Meggitt PLC Bournemouth, U.K.	Roger Brum/Jaime Rodriguez president/general manager (949) 465-7700; (949) 493-8181	
17	(21)	Maruchan Inc. 15800 Laguna Canyon Road Irvine 92618-3103 Website:maruchan.com		634 ⁽²⁾ NA	Maruchan Inc.	Noodle maker	Toyo Suisan Kaisha Ltd. Tokyo	wnd (949) 789-2300	
18	(23)	Mazda North American Operations 200 Spectrum Center Drive, Ste. 100 Irvine 92618-5004 Website:mazdausa.com		580 7%	North American headquarters, Mazda's North American Customer Experience Center, research and development, design, and Western region operations	Automotive distribution, marketing, design	Mazda Motor Corp. Hiroshima, Japan	Masahiro Moro CEO/president (949) 727-1990/(949) 727-6101	
19	(17)	Karma Automotive LLC 9950 Jeronimo Road Irvine 92618-2014 Website:karmaautomotive.com		501 ⁽⁴⁾ 26%	Global headquarters, manufacturing	Electric plug-in hybrid automobile manufacturer	Wanxiang Group Corp. China	Lance Zhou CEO (714) 723-3474	
20	(24)	Hyundai Motor America Inc. 10550 Talbert Ave. Fountain Valley 92708-6031 Website:hyundaiusa.com		474 -3%	U.S. sales and marketing headquarters, Western Region headquarters, Hyundai Design and Technical Center, Hyundai Information Services North America, Hyundai Capital America	Automaker	Hyundai Motor Group Seoul, South Korea	Yong-woo 'William' Lee interim CEO/president (714) 965-3000/(714) 965-3861	
21	(22)	GKN PLC 12122 Western Ave. Garden Grove 92841-2915 Website:gkn.com		435 8%	GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems Inc.	Aircraft transparencies	Melrose PLC Redditch, U.K.	John Danley president/general manager, GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems Inc. (714) 653-7531/(714) 897-1139	

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⁽²⁾ Business Journal estimate

⁽⁴⁾ Karma incorrectly reported employee count that included all California employees; the current figure reflects OC employees

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22	(19)	Toshiba America Inc. 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York 10020-1104 Website: toshiba.com		420 ⁽⁵⁾ NA	Toshiba America Electronic Components Inc. (TAEC)	PC and equipment chips	Toshiba Corp. Tokyo	Akihiko Oma CEO/president, TAEC	
		Toshiba Tec Corp. Tokyo Website: toshibatec.com			Toshiba America Business Solutions Inc. (TABS)	Multifunction printers, managed document services, digital signage		Scott Maccabe CEO/president, TABS (pictured)	
23	(26)	Kia Motors America Inc. 111 Peters Canyon Road Irvine 92606-1790 Website: kia.com		396 9%	North American headquarters, sales, marketing, consumer affairs, finance, human resources, legal, product planning, public relations	Automaker	Hyundai Kia Automotive Group Seoul, South Korea	SeungKyu 'Sean' Yoon CEO/president (949) 468-4800/(949) 468-4905	
24	(29)	Yamaha Corporation of America 6600 Orangethorpe Ave. Buena Park 90620-1396 Website: usa.yamaha.com		367 5%	U.S. sales and marketing headquarters for Yamaha musical instruments, professional audio and consumer electronics	Manufacturer of musical instruments, audio equipment	Yamaha Corp. Hamamatsu, Japan	Tom Sumner president (714) 522-9011	
25	(28)	Sage North America 7595 Irvine Center Drive, Ste. 200 Irvine 92618-2963 Website: sage.com		365 ⁽²⁾ NA	Sage Software Inc.	Business management software and services to small and medium sized businesses	The Sage Group PLC Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K.	Nancy Harris executive VP, Sage North America (866) 996-7243	
26	(25)	Teva Pharmaceuticals USA Inc. 19 Hughes Irvine 92618-1902 Website: tevausa.com		316 ⁽²⁾ NA	R&D, production	Drugmaker	Teva Pharmaceuticals Industries Ltd. Petach Tikva, Israel	Brendan O'Grady executive VP, North America commercial (949) 455-4700	
27	(31)	IKEA 1475 South Coast Drive Costa Mesa 92626-2127 Website: ikea-usa.com/costa_mesa		310 ⁽²⁾ NA	IKEA Costa Mesa store	Furniture retailer, home furnishings	Inter IKEA Systems BV Delft, Netherlands	Jesper Brodin CEO/president (714) 444-4532	
27	(27)	Volcom LLC 1740 Monrovia Ave. Costa Mesa 92627-4448 Website: volcom.com		310 NA	Volcom headquarters, operations	Apparel designer, retailer	Kering SA Paris	Todd Hymel CEO, Volcom and Action Sports Brands division of Kering (949) 646-2175/(949) 646-5247	
29	(34)	Bank of the West 4400 MacArthur Blvd., Ste. 100 Newport Beach 92660-2089 Website: bankofthewest.com		279 ⁽²⁾ NA	Bank of the West	Personal, commercial, wealth management, international banking services	BNP Paribas SA Paris	Dan Wilson executive VP/area manager, national banking (949) 797-1900/(949)797-1901	
30	(30)	Kawasaki Motors Corp. U.S.A. 26972 Burbank Foothill Ranch 92610-2506 Website: kawasaki.com		273 4%	Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. headquarters	Marketing, distribution and sales of motorcycles, personal watercraft, all-terrain vehicles, side x side vehicles, power products, parts and accessories	Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd. Akashi, Japan	Yoshitaka 'Yoshi' Tamura CEO/president (949) 770-0400	
31	(35)	Ricoh Electronics Inc. 1100 Valencia Ave. Tustin 92780-6428 Website: rei.ricoh.com		256 ⁽²⁾ NA	Ricoh Electronics Inc.	Maker of office equipment, thermal media and imaging materials	Ricoh Company Ltd. Tokyo	Joji Tokunaga CEO/president, Ricoh Americas (714) 566-2500	
32	(37)	Mitsubishi Electric U.S. Inc. 5900 Katella Ave. Cypress 90630-5019 Website: us.mitsubishielectric.com		250 0%	U.S. headquarters	Research, engineering, manufacturing and marketing of electrical and electronic equipment used in industrial technology, energy and ground transportation	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Tokyo	Keijiro 'Kent' Hora/Michael Corbo CEO, president, Mitsubishi Electric U.S./COO (714) 220-2500	
33	(33)	IMI CCI 22591 Avenida Empresa Rancho Santa Margarita 92688-2003 Website: imi-critical.com		240 0%	Control Components Inc.	Control valves for oil, gas and power industries	IMI PLC Birmingham, U.K.	C.M. Merrimon president, Americas (949) 858-1877/(949) 858-1878	
33	(38)	Mitsubishi Motors North America Inc. 6400 Katella Ave. Cypress 90630-0064 Website: mitsubishicars.com		240 0%	Mitsubishi Motors North America Inc.	Automobiles, marketing and sales	Mitsubishi Motors Corp. Tokyo	Fred Diaz CEO/president (714) 372-6400	
35	(39)	Saint-Gobain Seals 7301 Orangewood Ave. Garden Grove 92841-1411 Website: seals.saint-gobain.com		229 ⁽²⁾ NA	Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corp., Saint-Gobain Abrasives Inc., Saint-Gobain Vetrotex America Inc.	Designs, develops and manufactures OmniSeal, Furon and Sani-Tech product lines	Compagnie de Saint-Gobain Paris	wnd (714) 995-1818/(714) 688-2701	
36	(35)	Asics America Corp. 80 Technology Irvine 92618-2301 Website: asics.com		224 -2%	Asics America Corp.	Shoes, clothes and accessories for running, racing, walking and other activities	Asics Corp. Kobe, Japan	Gene McCarthy CEO (949) 453-8888/(949) 453-0292	

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⁽⁵⁾ Business Journal estimate; employee count reflects total OC employees under Toshiba companies
⁽²⁾ Business Journal estimate

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