

Construction begins on Viva Biopharm facility in Blaine

Posted on 16. Jul, 2009 by [Lance Henderson](#) in [News](#)



Whatcom County Executive Pete Kremen (third from left), Blaine city staffers and Viva Biopharm USA executives at the groundbreaking ceremony July 1. Photo courtesy of Viva Pharmaceutical

By Lance Henderson

Viva Biopharm USA, a subsidiary of British Columbia-based Viva Pharmaceutical, recently broke ground on a \$30 million complex on eight acres along Odell Road in Blaine.

The two-year project will erect three buildings with more than 200,000 square feet.

A Viva representative could not be reached for comment, but according to the company's Web site, the Blaine facility will primarily be used for manufacturing pharmaceuticals and "inventing new drugs and advanced technologies."

"Viva Canada already owned some patents and will manufacture the patent products in Blaine facilities," according to the Web site.

Bellingham-based Credo Construction will be the project's general contractor. For this project, Credo will employ a new patented concrete tilt-up system called Hi-Tech Tilt, which uses approximately 70 percent less concrete than standard tilt-up wall systems.

"This system provides optimal strength and stability for the walls while significantly reducing use of building materials," said Todd Lapinsky, president of Credo Construction, in a press release.

Upon completion, the facility is expected to employ 150 to 300 employees.