

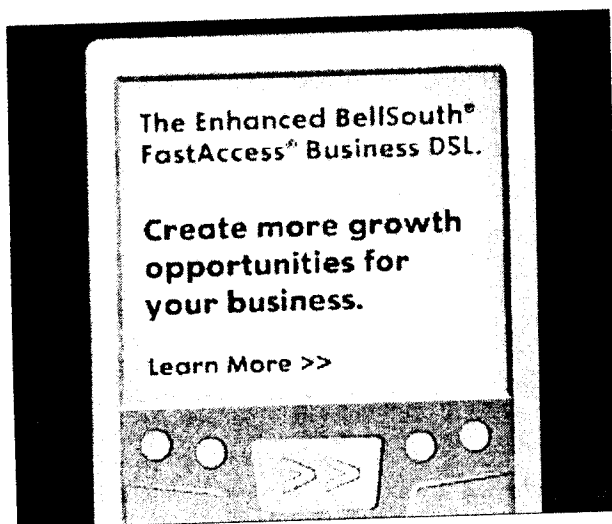


DriveTime

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*DriveTime to open first Jacksonville location*

## DriveTime to open first Jacksonville location

A used car sales and finance company will open its first Jacksonville location Thursday on Blanding Boulevard. The site will be the 17th Florida location for DriveTime, which spent about \$350,000 on building costs and site improvements.



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DriveTime sells and finances more than 50,000 vehicles each year in 85 dealerships in eight states, primarily serving customers with credit problems.

"We've had great success in Orlando and Tampa," said spokesman Jon Ehlinger, "and we expect to do the same here in Jacksonville."

DriveTime employs nearly 400 people in Florida at its nine dealerships in Orlando and seven in Tampa. After opening the Blanding Boulevard location, DriveTime is planning to open two more dealerships and an inspection center in Jacksonville next year.

"DriveTime expects to generate nearly \$2.5 million in annual sales tax in Jacksonville after the additional stores are open," said Ehlinger.

DriveTime and its affiliate, DT

in Phoenix and have assets of nearly \$1 billion.