

AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIERS IN THE CAROLINAS



One of the best business climates for companies wishing to expand.

An extensive network of highways and ports.

Substantial incentives and tax breaks to auto manufacturers.

PROXIMITY TO AUTOMOTIVE OEMS

Many Automotive OEMs and Automotive Suppliers are located in the vicinity of the Carolinas. Twelve OEM's manufacturing facilities, and two under construction*, are located within a day's drive from the Carolinas.

1. General Motors (Saturn) - Spring Hill, Tenn.
2. Nissan - Smyrna, Tenn.
3. Mercedes - Vance, Ala.
4. Honda - Lincoln, Ala.
5. General Motors - Doraville, Ga.
6. Ford - Hapeville, Ga.
7. *Nissan - Canton, Miss.
8. General Motors - Bowling Green, Ky.
9. Toyota - Georgetown, Ky.
10. Ford - Louisville, Ky.
11. BMW - Greer, S.C.
12. Ford - Norfolk, Va.
13. General Motors - Baltimore, Md.
14. *Hyundai - Montgomery, Ala.

There are over 5,000 major automotive-related manufacturing plants in the Southern Auto Corridor.

SUPERIOR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Seven international airports (Charlotte-Douglas, Piedmont Triad, Raleigh/Durham, Wilmington, Greenville-Spartanburg, Charleston, and Myrtle Beach International), along with 9 regional airports, provide a global gateway to and from the Carolinas.
- Crisscrossed with 6 major interstates (I-85, I-26, I-77, I-95, I-20 and I-40) and over 140,000 miles of highway, the Carolinas are linked to seaports, businesses and consumers in all directions. Ninety-six percent of N.C. has access to four-lane highways within 10 minutes.
- Four Class I railroads with 37 freight lines operate over 5,500 miles of track throughout the Carolinas.
- Five deep water ports, specializing in intermodal system terminals with interstate and rail access to markets throughout the U.S., are located in the Carolinas. N.C. was the first port operated inland container staging and storage facility in the nation. S.C. is the 4th largest container port in the U.S.



Extensive training programs, right-to-work laws & employment-at-will, as well as low unionization and wages.

Growing the Carolinas' economy is a commitment shared with those charged with protecting our environment.

INCENTIVES / TAX ADVANTAGES

In 2004, the North Carolina General Assembly made significant enhancements to its existing incentive tools:

- Jobs Development Investment Grant, a key incentive tool, was expanded to 25 grants per year, cap raised from \$10 to \$15 million, extended to 2006.
- Additional \$20 million secured for One North Carolina Fund (cash incentives).
- Wage test eliminated for Industrial Revenue Bonds.

South Carolina has one of the most attractive tax climates in the Southeast – No state property tax, No local income tax, No inventory tax, No wholesale tax, No unitary tax on worldwide profits.

QUALITY WORK FORCE AND COMPETITIVE WAGES

- The average auto manufacturing wage in the Carolinas is \$13.15 per hour versus \$23.67 per hour nationwide.
- The Carolinas' 75-campus Community College System has emerged as one of the largest in the nation and is recognized as the national leader for its support of economic workforce development and training. Examples of programs are ISO 9000, Total Quality Management, Team Building, Supervisory Development Training, Statistical Process Control and World Class Concepts.
- North Carolina and South Carolina have the lowest union membership rates among the fifty states, 3.6 percent and 4.2 percent, respectively.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING

- Pro-business environment
- Quick turnaround for most applicants (avg. 6 weeks)
- In line with federal standards

RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY

- Duke Energy's average industrial rate in the Carolinas is \$0.0406, below the regional average of \$0.042 and significantly lower than the national average industrial rate of \$0.0506.
- Duke Energy's System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) is 99.97% in the Carolinas.
- Duke Energy provides free reliability risk management consulting, including forecasted reliability and recommended options, such as safeguards and backups.

