

# PROCESSED FOOD & NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING IN THE CAROLINAS



**Business-friendly environment.**

**The Carolinas are regional leaders in the food and beverage manufacturing industry with nearly 700 manufacturers employing over 70,000 people.**

**Easy market access.**

## AVAILABLE, AFFORDABLE, SKILLED LABOR

- The Carolinas rank 5th nationally in number of workers employed in the food and beverage manufacturing industries.
- Carolina food manufacturing wages are ranked well below the national average. North Carolina 44th and South Carolina ranks 39th.

## INDUSTRY PRESENCE

- The Carolinas rank 2nd in the Southeast in number of food and beverage manufacturers.
- Campbell Soup, Sara Lee Corporation, Krispy Kreme, Nestlé, Tyson, Frito-Lay (PepsiCo), Miller Brewing, Kellogg Co., Pepperidge Farms, Unilever, Cott Beverages, Keystone Foods, Perdue Farms.

## 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.

## PROXIMITY TO MAJOR SOUTHEASTERN MARKETS

Within 300 miles/500 km of the Carolinas' borders are:

- Population of more than 40 million people.
- Growing Southeastern metropolitan centers such as Charlotte, Columbia, Atlanta, Richmond, and Jacksonville.
- In 2003, the Carolinas issued 117,417 residential building permits which accounted for 6.2% of all permits issued in the U.S. North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Virginia are among the top 10 permit issuing states.
- 5-year state population growth is 7% in North Carolina, 6% in South Carolina, 7% in Virginia and 10% in both Georgia and Florida.



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

**Electric utility cost in the Carolinas is below the national average.**

**Duke Energy's System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) is 99.97% in the Carolinas.**

## **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.

## **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.

