

syncTM Weekly highlights from the North Carolina Department of Commerce



(Left-right): Clearwater Paper Shelby Plant Manager Vince Reese, Bob Decker, and N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker examine some of the company's products

Secretary Decker tours Clearwater Paper

On Feb. 1, N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker toured the new Clearwater Paper plant in Shelby. Construction of the one million-square-foot facility, the company's newest and its only on the East Coast, was completed in December. New production and distribution capability at Shelby is expected to increase the company's ultra and premium offerings of bathroom tissue and household towels to existing southern and East Coast private-label customers. Clearwater Paper has 200 employees in Shelby. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Rod Forsythe](#) was the original developer on this project in 2010.

International Trade Division offers webinar on exporting to Korea

There's never been a better time to consider exporting or expanding your business globally than today -with the recently enacted U.S.–Korea Free Trade Agreement. On Feb. 27, the N.C. Department of Commerce's International Trade Division is hosting a free webinar that will allow North Carolina companies to hear how their businesses can capitalize on Korea's dynamic \$1 trillion marketplace and its 49 million consumers. International trade and finance experts from the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the Embassy of Korea, and the Small Business Administration will present to North Carolina companies in this interactive 60-minute webinar. Discover new opportunities and key North Carolina

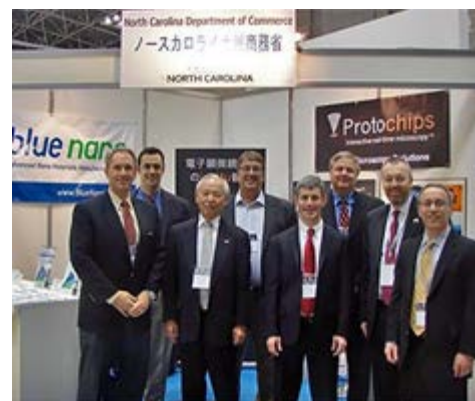
Steel building manufacturer to create 29 jobs in Edgecombe County

On Feb. 6, Governor Pat McCrory and N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker announced that Nash Building Systems Inc., a manufacturer of metal roofing, metal building components and pre-engineered steel buildings, will expand its facility in Edgecombe County. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Donna Phillips](#) was the developer on this project.

The company plans to create 29 jobs and invest \$2.2 million over the next three years in Tarboro. The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the [One North Carolina Fund](#) of up to \$100,000. The grant is contingent upon proof of job creation and receipt of a local funding match.

Nashco, Inc. got its start erecting steel buildings more than 25 years ago. After the construction market slowed in 2008, Nashco started looking into manufacturing of metal building components. Nash Building Systems, incorporated in 2013, currently employs more than 10 people at its Tarboro facility. The company will manufacture metal roofing products, metal building components and a pre-engineered metal building package.

Other partners that helped with this project include: N.C. Community Colleges, Edgecombe County, Town of Tarboro and the Carolinas Gateway Partnership. [Read more.](#)



The North Carolina delegation at Nano Tech

sectors poised to benefit from this free trade agreement. You'll also receive information on financial incentives for trade missions to South Korea, cultural guidelines, and more! Register for this webinar [here](#).



(Left-right) Alamance County Area Chamber of Commerce President Mac Williams, N.C. Department of Commerce Senior Economic Developer Margie Bukowski, and the chamber's Chairman and Senior Vice President of Carolina Bank Keith Strickland

Bukowski wins economic development award

On Feb. 7 at the Alamance County Economic Foundation's annual meeting, N.C. Department of Commerce Senior Economic Developer Margie Bukowski was given the first Economic Development Impact Award for working over a year to bring the Sheetz and the Ferrero Foods projects to Alamance County. Sheetz Executive Vice President Ray Ryan attended the meeting and presented the first drawings of the planned distribution and food manufacturing facility in Burlington, which will be roughly 260,000 sq. ft. with plans to expand to 400,000 sq. ft. On Feb. 14, Sheetz will open its fiftieth store in North Carolina.



Upcoming CIAA tournament to fill about

2013in Tokyo

N.C. companies showcase nanotechnology at Nano Tech 2013 in Tokyo

Nano Tech 2013 was held Jan. 30-Feb. 1 in Tokyo, Japan with more than 1900 exhibitors from 58 countries showcasing a wide range of new products and technologies. The event brought together thousands of buyers and sellers to discuss commercialization strategies, international standardization, and world nanotechnology trends. More than 120,000 visitors attended the show, which is the largest in the industry.

With support from the N.C. Department of Commerce's International Trade Division, four North Carolina companies exhibited at the show and reported strong lead generation and results. Attendees included Protochips of Raleigh, Blue Nano of Charlotte, Xanofi of Research Triangle Park, and Thermcraft Incorporated of Greensboro.

State of North Carolina Trade Representative Sumio Shibata from the Tokyo office and N.C. Commerce Business Development Manager Rick Hill were on hand to help facilitate North Carolina export sales and strengthen existing business relationships in the nanotechnology market.

Rural center releases "Our Manufacturing Future" study

The N.C. Rural Economic Development Center released on Feb. 8 the results of an expansive, yearlong study of the state of manufacturing in North Carolina.

The report cites growing reasons for optimism about the future of manufacturing -- in 2011, for example, the sector experienced the first net increase in jobs in 16 years -- and recommends establishment of the N.C. Manufacturing Council to capitalize on this momentum. A second report, with further recommendations, is to be released in March.

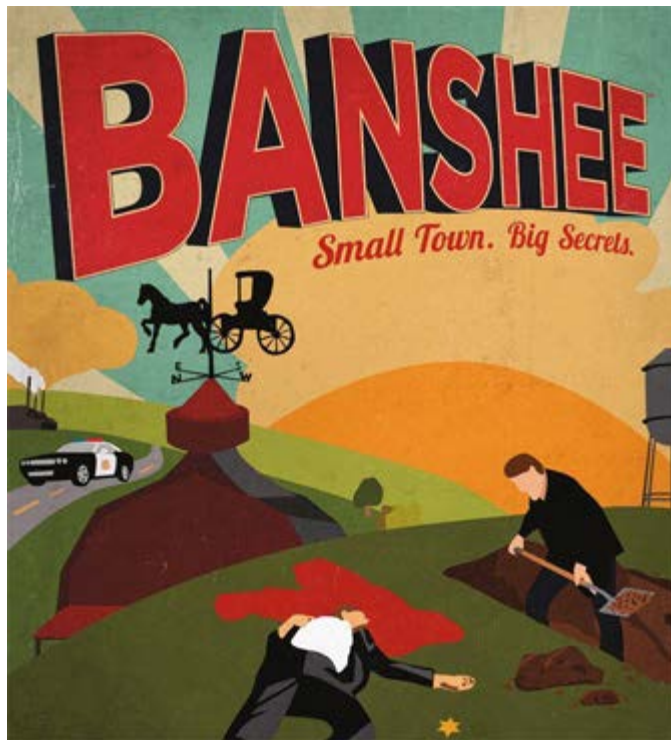
Equally important, the report provides policy makers and economic developers at the state, regional and local levels with a wealth of new information to guide their work. Entitled "[Our Manufacturing Future: Toward a More Prosperous Rural North Carolina](#)," it:

- Details the 25 manufacturing clusters that employ the most people in North Carolina. These clusters are product-related industries with strong buying and selling relationships, thus representing a broader impact than individual industries.
- Analyzes the relative strengths of these clusters for the state, for the 85 counties that make up rural North

45,000 Charlotte-area hotel rooms

With less than a month to go before the CIAA tournament returns to Charlotte, conference officials unveiled a new logo on Feb. 4, as well as a theme for this year's event. The 2013 theme - "Back to Basketball" - reflects the CIAA's ongoing campaign to lure more fans into Time Warner Cable Arena to see the actual games. This year's logo, which includes a drawing that represents the Charlotte skyline, is meant to give the tournament a modern feel without losing the CIAA's century of history. The CIAA tournament has been held in Charlotte each of the last eight years and is now one of the city's biggest economic events, drawing tens of thousands of visitors to the city each year to attend various parties, concerts and official events. The five-day tournament accounts for about 45,000 hotel room nights each year. According to the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority, the 2012 CIAA tournament pumped \$50.5 million into the Charlotte-area economy, with more than 197,000 people attending uptown functions related to the CIAA.

[CIAA unveils new logo, familiar message](#) (Qcitymetro.com, Jan. 30)



Cinemax renews N.C.-filmed Banshee for a second season

Just three weeks into the airing of its first season, the Cinemax series *Banshee* has been renewed for a second season. *Banshee*'s first 10 episodes were shot in and around Charlotte last spring. The show debuted on Jan. 11, featuring Anthony Starr as an ex-con and a thief who assumes the identity of the sheriff in the small town of Banshee, Pa. Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx would like to keep the cameras rolling; he recently asked state legislators to renew a tax-credit incentive for the film industry that is largely credited with boosting the number of productions filmed in North Carolina and the spending tied to those to record figures last year.

[Cinemax series Banshee renewed for a second season](#) (*The Charlotte Observer*, Jan. 30)

Carolina and for each of the seven economic development sectors.

- Further explores the complex relationships within six rural manufacturing clusters.
- Highlights factors contributing to the successes of the most competitive businesses and cites common challenges among rural manufacturers.
- Maps the locations across the state of jobs in each of the 25 clusters.

Although manufacturing has suffered significant job losses over the past two decades, it remains the top contributor to North Carolina's gross domestic product and 84 percent of state exports.

It is especially important in rural parts of the state, where it accounts for 14 percent of total employment and \$9.3 billion in annual wages. Furthermore, at \$42,297, the average rural manufacturing wage is nearly a third higher than the average for other private, non-manufacturing jobs. [Read more.](#)

Year-to-date Metrics

Below are year-to-date metrics tracked by the N.C. Department of Commerce's Division of Business and Industry Development that illustrate some of the recent activities of the Division. The metrics include the number of new economic development projects assigned to B&I development staff; the number of economic development project announcements; the number of announced jobs created and capital invested; the number of interactions existing industry staff had with businesses throughout the state; and the number of contacts received by the Business Link North Carolina/Business ServiCenter.

Jan. 1 - Feb. 12, 2013

New projects assigned:	57
Projects announced:	9
Jobs announced:	502
Capital investment announced:	\$146M
Industry visits by existing industry staff:	101
Calls to Business Link N.C.:	2,513

N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [Czech delegation to visit Charlotte later this month](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Feb. 7)
- [Red Hat CEO: Jobs are coming](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Feb. 7)
- [Home Depot adding 450 seasonal jobs in Charlotte](#) (*The Charlotte Observer*, Feb. 7)
- [Small-business loan fund approved by](#)

- [Raleigh](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Feb. 6)
- [Charlotte uptown group hires economic developer](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Feb. 6)
- [Association of the U.S. Army to bring flagship event to Raleigh](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Feb. 6)
- [State moves ahead on cold storage facility at port](#) (*StarNews* – Wilmington, Feb. 5)
- [Italian furniture maker opens North American HQ at Nussbaum Center](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, Feb. 5)
- [Promise met: Electrolux now at 805 Charlotte employees](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Feb. 5)
- [Richmond County hires new economic developer](#) (*Richmond County Daily Journal*, Feb. 5)
- [Austin firm to start data center in Raleigh](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Feb. 5)
- [Durham firm lands big deal for 'green roof' at NYC Javits Center](#) (*WRAL Tech Wire*, Feb. 4)
- [AllFit relocating to Charlotte. signs big lease](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Feb. 4)

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