

# sync<sup>TM</sup>

Weekly highlights from the  
North Carolina Department of Commerce



Secretary Sharon Decker (center) with NetApp's Engineering Vice President Greg Germain (left) and Customer Success Operations Executive Vice President Rich Clifton (right) at the ribbon cutting of the new RTP facility.

## NetApp Opens New State-of-the-Art R&D Engineering Lab in RTP

North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker participated in the May 30 ribbon cutting and grand opening for NetApp's new state-of-the-art, energy efficient research and development lab located in Research Triangle Park (RTP). The new facility will add 150 new jobs to the company's 1,600 current employees in RTP. The celebration also marked the 15-year anniversary of NetApp in RTP.

"NetApp's commitment to North Carolina is evident with the investment it has made to build one of the most energy efficient facilities of its kind here in RTP," said Secretary Decker. "This is just another example of how businesses view North Carolina as one of the best places in the country to be located."

NetApp is based in Sunnyvale, CA, and is one of the largest employers in RTP. The new 155,000-square-foot engineering facility will provide NetApp with an enhanced 24/7 shared services infrastructure for testing its hardware and software against conditions that meet or exceed the performance requirements of today's enterprise data centers and cloud environments.

"The opening of this new global engineering facility in RTP will enhance our ability to innovate on the next-generation of

### From the Office of Secretary Sharon Allred Decker

The short session is in full swing and we are guiding our enabling legislation for the Economic Development Partnership through the Legislature. Just recently, we addressed the House Appropriations Committee Chairs and underscored that all grant-making functions will remain on the public side of Commerce and the sales and marketing functions will move to the private side.

This new business model will leverage private investment, allow us to move with speed in decision-making and gain efficiencies in state government. We look forward to a strong working relationship with each of you as the changes occur.

In addition, in this session, we are working to make the building reuse program available for occupied and unoccupied buildings as well as allowing the grants to be used for building demolition. We are also hopeful that new legislation and appropriation will be made available for facilities development.

In other news, national and international attention is now on Pinehurst No. 2. The U.S. Open Championships are being played back-to-back, during consecutive weeks in Pinehurst.

North Carolina has a wonderful opportunity to show off golf, and from the Commerce perspective: it's all business. We are connecting with many corporate executives of both potential and existing business in the state. In addition, we have a number of guests from the tourism and hospitality industries, as we showcase golf in North Carolina. In conjunction with developing a new brand for the state, we shared what North Carolina means to our residents during a special performance of the North Carolina Symphony Friday night in downtown Pinehurst.

### House of Raeford Farms Bringing 200 Jobs Back to Davie County

House of Raeford Farms has announced it will be reopening the former Crestwood Farms

storage and data management technology, while providing the backbone to deliver enterprise-class service and support," said Rich Clifton, executive vice president of customer success operations for NetApp.

One of the keys to the new facility is the amount of energy it will save through its high efficiency operation. NetApp says the energy efficiency savings are equivalent to powering 15,000 homes a year.

"NetApp is a significant partner in growing our state's economy," said Secretary Decker. "In today's global economy, people are the most important asset to any company and North Carolina gives them what they need to flourish."

NetApp currently has three active Job Development Investment Grants from the State of North Carolina. NetApp is one of the largest job creators in the state.



## **Tobacco BioEnergy Company to Restart Ethanol Refinery in Hoke County**

Governor Pat McCrory and North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker have announced that Danville, VA-based Tyton BioEnergy Systems is restarting the former Clean Burn Fuels biorefinery in Hoke County. The move is part of its strategy to convert its proprietary tobacco, to be grown regionally, into ethanol. The new operation will generate 79 jobs and invest \$36 million over the next three years in Hoke, Wake and other surrounding counties.

Tyton's partner, Tyton NC Biofuels, purchased the facility and is planning to add the biofuels manufacturing jobs and restart North Carolina's only commercial-scale ethanol refinery, which has been idle for more than three years in Raeford.

"Companies are establishing operations in North Carolina because our economic environment is strong and our workforce is extremely capable," said Governor McCrory. "Tyton will generate jobs in green manufacturing and provide new opportunities for farmers while investing millions of dollars in North Carolina's economy."

Tyton BioEnergy Systems has developed a special energy tobacco plant that is a dedicated non-food fuel crop. During the next five years, Tyton will work to grow its energy tobacco and establish local rural processing facilities to convert tobacco into three products: sugar for ethanol, oil for biodiesel and a "green" byproduct called biochar, which is used as a soil amendment in the forestry and agriculture sectors. Tyton energy tobacco will not compete with traditional tobacco, but rather offer farmers the opportunity to profitably grow a new energy crop in rotation with other row crops or on lands not ideal for other crops.

"We continue to attract innovative companies to North Carolina," said Secretary Decker. "Tyton will not only give farmers a new alternative crop, but will also help boost rural North Carolina's economy."

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average annual wage

(Townsend's) processing plant in Mocksville. The plant has been idle for two years and once operational, the facility will bring as many as 200 jobs back to the Mocksville location.

House of Raeford Farms was the successful bidder to purchase the 65,000-square-foot facility at a bankruptcy auction in October 2013. The company decided to reopen the plant and invest in up-fitting the facilities to state-of-the-art standards to make it productive again.

"We are very fortunate to have a North Carolina family owned business come in to bring this plant back to life," said Terry Bralley, President of the Davie County Economic Development Commission. "House of Raeford Farms has a long history in North Carolina of being an excellent corporate citizen. They are one of the reasons that agriculture continues to be the number one industry in North Carolina."

House of Raeford Farms is operated and based out of Rose Hill, with additional facilities in North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana and South Carolina. With more than 5,500 employees, House of Raeford Farms is one of the largest poultry producers in the United States.

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## **North Carolina Biotech Companies on Display in Tokyo**

A wide variety of North Carolina biotechnology products were on display at the BIOtech 2014 trade show in Tokyo, Japan, in May. Representatives from the North Carolina Department of Commerce International Trade Division were joined by companies such as Catalent, Crawford Composites, EOS Remediation, Fujifilm Diosynth, Patheon, PPD, and Xanofi - all with the goal of expanding their business in Japan. Approximately 10,000 attendees from more than 25 countries met to conduct active business talks around multiple topics affecting this growing industry.

During the show, Xanofi, a Raleigh-based nanomaterial company specializing in rapid product development, announced the global release of XanoMatrix<sup>®</sup>, a suite of next generation 3D cell culturing products. The products were shown at BIOtech 2014 and will be displayed again at the BIO International Convention June 23-26 in San Diego, CA. XanoMatrix can be used in a wide range of cell growth applications, from fixed bed reactors, regenerative medicine applications, laboratory plate culturing, in vitro cancer work, and more.

Mr. Sumio Shibata, Trade Director for the State of North Carolina office in Japan, presented on North Carolina's appealing business environment and its dynamic, growing biotechnology cluster. "Japan is an

for the new jobs will be \$43,671 plus benefits. The Hoke County average annual wage is \$33,032.

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the One North Carolina Fund of up to \$232,000. The One NC Fund provides financial assistance, through local governments, to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. Companies receive no money up front and must meet job creation and investment performance standards to qualify for grant funds. These grants also require and are contingent upon local matches.

NC's Southeast Regional Economic Development Partnership, a public-private partnership that markets the Southeast region nationally and globally, was an important resource to Tyton in its evaluation and selection of Hoke County and North Carolina.

Other partners that helped with this project include: the N.C. Department of Commerce, N.C. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, N.C. State University, N.C. Community Colleges, Sandhills Community College, NCWorks, Hoke County, Raeford-Hoke Economic Development Commission, Wake County Economic Development and N.C. Biotechnology Center.

important market for all North Carolina companies," he said. "The State of North Carolina's office in Tokyo is here to help NC companies thrive in Japan by finding the right partners in this market."

## 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 - Jun. 17, 2014

<b>New projects assigned:</b>	153
<b>Projects announced:</b>	57
<b>Jobs announced:</b>	4,762
<b>Capital investment announced:</b>	\$757M
<b>Industry visits by existing industry staff:</b>	355
<b>Calls to Business Link N.C.:</b>	9,138

## N.C. in the News

### This Week's Highlights

- [Snow Hill businesses receive Small Business Entrepreneurial Assistance grants](#) (*Kinston Free Press*, Jun. 16)
- [Raleigh among 'Top Cities for Female Entrepreneurs'](#) (*Intuit Small Business Blog*)

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