

syncTM Weekly highlights from the
North Carolina Department of Commerce



Industrial Asset Management Council dinner speakers, from left, IAMC Board Chairman Rick Little of Weyerhaeuser; Mayor Terry Bellamy of the City of Asheville and Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll. (Photo by Cynthia Carroll)

Corporate real estate execs meet in Asheville

Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll and economic developers Peggy Anderson and Rod Forsythe are attending the 2009 Spring [Industrial Asset Management Council](#) (IAMC) Professional Forum May 2-6 at Grove Park Inn in Asheville. IAMC is a national association of corporate real estate executives and economic developers. The forum will examine a variety of issues affecting corporate real estate, including global changes reshaping the industrial landscape, the role of real estate in corporate investment decision-making and the changing U.S. industrial base. This is the first time the forum has been held in North Carolina.

[The Friends of North Carolina](#) sponsored a dinner for 90 early arrivals May 2 at the inn. On May 3, Commerce joined other N.C. economic development organizations to host a welcome reception for 300 attendees at Biltmore Estates.

Commerce releases Spring 2009 Update

Commerce has released its [Spring 2009 Update](#). The update includes selected economic indicators, accolades and information on recent announcements, such as Convergys Corp. bringing 300 jobs to Fayetteville. The update was given to attendees at the Industrial Asset Management Council (IAMC) conference, taking place in Asheville through May 6.

Division of Tourism promotes N.C.



Gov. Bev Perdue presents a proclamation declaring High Point "the world's home for home furnishings," April 29 at the High Point Furniture Market. (Photo by David Holston, High Point Enterprise)

Perdue honors High Point Market during centennial celebration

Gov. Perdue presented a proclamation designating High Point "the world's home for home furnishings," April 29 at the [High Point Furniture Market](#). The market, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary, was recognized by the governor for its leadership role in developing a global marketplace. Each spring and fall, more than 80,000 buyers and visitors from more than 100 countries attend the market. Furniture exports from North Carolina companies increased more than 17% in 2008 over 2007.

[Centennial Celebration: Governor honors High Point Market's 100th anniversary](#) (High Point Enterprise, April 29)

Wine & Grape Council to sponsor celebration

The N.C. Wine & Grape Council will sponsor [Salute! The North Carolina Wine Celebration](#) May 9 in downtown Winston-Salem. The celebration will highlight the state's wine industry with tastings from 32 wineries, plus food and entertainment.

Metrics from B&I Division

Below are year-to-date metrics tracked by the

with interactive ad on The Golf Channel

The Division of Tourism's ongoing interactive golf advertising on The Golf Channel family of web sites this spring also included on air exposure during the network's coverage of the Quail Hollow Championship in Charlotte. Commercials promoting North Carolina and the Division's golf travel web site Golf.VisitNC.com aired through Sunday, May 3. A short feature including an interview with Wit Tuttell, the Division's director of public relations, complemented the advertising effort Sunday evening during the network's Golf Central coverage immediately following the final round of the Quail Hollow Championship.

[To see the Golf Channel segment, click here.](#)

Crisco discusses N.C. CEO forum, economy in podcast

Commerce Sec. Keith Crisco discussed the 2009 [N.C. CEO Forum in a podcast](#) released April 29. The forum is an invitation-only business event scheduled for May 15 at Prestonwood Country Club in Cary. In the podcast, Crisco, a panelist at the event, addresses North Carolina's current economic position, what is being done to improve that position, and how the forum will be helpful for business owners.

Perdue declares Workforce Development Professionals Month

Gov. Bev Perdue has declared May to be Workforce Development Professionals Month. The governor made the proclamation "in recognition of the efforts and accomplishments made by those in all workforce development organizations and partnerships that play such a vital role in our economy." [View the proclamation. N.C. Commerce Workforce Services Division](#)

Medical device manufacturer selects Plymouth site

[Micro Invasive Technologies, Inc.](#) (MITI), a Connecticut-based medical device company, is relocating the company's manufacturing and research and development operations to Plymouth, according to a release by the [Northeast Commission](#) and the Washington County Board of Commissioners. The company anticipates it will train and hire as many as 40 workers within two years.

MITI is FDA-approved to manufacture and sell its DirectView™ Minimally Invasive Laparoscopic 10mm System with disposable, interchangeable and angled Lightguides for Urology and General Surgery. Tideland EMC, through the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program, is providing financial assistance in the form of a loan/grant to support the project.

MITI will occupy the former Tideland Mental Health Center building during its first year of operation, and will then move to the Washington County Commerce Center at the Plymouth Municipal Airport once a new building is completed. A 20,000 sq. ft. building will be constructed at the Airport as an anchor to attract additional investment to Washington County.

Division of Business and Industry (B&I) 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.

January - May 4, 2009

New projects assigned:	155
Projects announced:	30
Jobs created:	2,965
Capital invested:	\$494.8 million
Direct Account Interactions (industry visits by existing industry staff):	601
Calls to the Business ServiCenter:	9,549

N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [N.Y. food processor to relocate to Whiteville](#) (Fayetteville Observer, May 4)
- [Commerce secretary urges area leaders to adapt to economy](#) (Eden Daily News, May 4)
- [Carolinas Gateway Partnership helps attract firms](#) (Rocky Mount Telegram, May 3)
- [T-Ericsson is closing its RTP operation](#) (The News & Observer - Raleigh, May 2)
- [Delivery issues delay HondaJets](#) (The News & Observer - Raleigh, May 2)
- [Timken lays off more than 100](#) (Lincoln Tribune, May 1)
- [Red Hat plans more hiring after adding 600 employees](#) (Triangle Business Journal, April 30)
- [Charlotte buzzing with activity](#) (The Charlotte Post, April 30)
- [Toshiba jobs will add to city's energy wave](#) (The Charlotte Observer, April 29)
- [2 firms may get incentives for jobs pledge](#) (Winston-Salem Journal, April 29)
- [Barcalounger to move Rocky Mount factory, headquarters](#) (Rocky Mount Telegram, April 28)

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