

sync[®] NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES FROM N.C. COMMERCE



Celebrating the Infosys announcement (left-right): N.C. Commerce Secretary Tony Copeland; Anurag Varma, Vice President, Head of Government Affairs and Ravi Kumar, President for Infosys; Governor Cooper; and N.C. Senator Jay Chaudhuri.

2000 New Jobs Announced in Wake

Governor Roy Cooper announced July 6 that Infosys, the global business consulting and information technology company will locate a new technology hub in Wake County, creating 2,000 jobs over five years. The company plans to invest \$8.73 million in a project estimated to contribute \$2.9 billion to North Carolina's economy over 12 years.

"North Carolina's central role in technology innovation makes our state a perfect fit for Infosys," said **Governor Cooper**. "Our world-class universities and our high-tech workers drive growth and attract companies from around the world that are looking to innovate."

Infosys recently announced that it would open four new Technology and Innovation Hubs across the country with a focus on artificial intelligence, machine learning, user experience, emerging digital technologies, cloud, and big data. The North Carolina facility is the second hub identified by the company, following the selection of Indianapolis in May.

"North Carolina has a long history of investing in our people and their future," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "The state's commitment to worker training is part of that legacy, and it's a pleasure to partner with a company like Infosys that also sees the value of worker training and education."

Infosys will bring a variety of jobs to North Carolina, including software developers, analysts, digital architects and other



Sutter Street Manufacturing in Claremont.

Williams-Sonoma's Sutter Street Manufacturing Creating 72 Jobs in Catawba County

Sutter Street Manufacturing, a Williams-Sonoma, Inc. operation, plans to create 72 new jobs with an expansion in Catawba County, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced July 5. The upholstered furniture manufacturing company plans to invest \$1.9 million over three years to upgrade its facilities in Claremont.

"North Carolina is home to some of the most skilled furniture talent in the world," said **Governor Cooper**. "It's that talent that keeps furniture manufacturers here, and this expansion is a testament to the health of the furniture industry in North Carolina."

Sutter Street Manufacturing produces top-quality upholstered home furnishings for Williams-Sonoma, through brands like Pottery Barn, West Elm, and Williams-Sonoma Home. Williams-Sonoma established the operation in 2007 with just 25 associates. Sutter Street Manufacturing now employs 583 associates and plans to create 72 new full-time jobs in the next three years.

"Ten years ago, we decided to invest in North Carolina and Catawba County because of the vast pool of skilled furniture craftsmen and women," said **Darryl Webster, Vice President of Sutter Street Manufacturing**. "North Carolina and Catawba County have been valuable business partners working hand in hand with us to drive success. We are excited about our growth and look

technology professionals. Salaries for the new positions will vary, delivering a total payroll impact of more than \$130 million each year to the community, once all positions are filled.

"We are proud to partner with North Carolina and Governor Roy Cooper in delivering one of the largest jobs commitment in North Carolina state history," said **Dr. Vishal Sikka, Chief Executive Officer, Infosys**. "North Carolina is well-known for innovation - with a talented technology workforce focused on progressive fields like advanced manufacturing and clean technology; a diverse economy from financial services and life sciences; a vibrant startup community across Wake County and Research Triangle; and top-tier universities and community colleges. Together, we can now accelerate and expand, to drive the digital transformation of vital U.S. industries including aerospace, banking, biotech, and energy."

Infosys' expansion in Wake County will be facilitated, in part, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) approved by the state's Economic Investment Committee. Using a formula that takes into account the new tax revenues generated by the new jobs, the JDIG agreement authorizes the potential reimbursement to the company of up to \$22.4 million, spread over 12 years. State payments only occur following performance verification by the N.C. departments of Commerce and Revenue that the company has met its incremental job creation and investment targets. JDIG projects result in positive net tax revenue to the state treasury, even after taking into consideration the grant's reimbursement payments to a given company.

Because Infosys chose to locate in Wake County, the company's JDIG agreement also calls for moving as much as \$7.5 million into the state's Industrial Development Fund - Utility Account. The Utility Account helps rural communities finance necessary infrastructure upgrades to attract future business. New tax revenue generated through JDIG grants helps communities across the state, not only in the county where the jobs are created.

Partnering with [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) were the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [North Carolina State University](#), [Wake Technical Community College](#), [Capital Area Workforce Development, Wake County](#), the [City of Raleigh](#), the [Town of Cary](#), the [Town of Morrisville](#), [Wake County Economic Development](#), and the [Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce](#).

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N.C. Communities Receive National Main

forward to continuing our partnership."

A performance-based grant of \$300,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Sutter Street Manufacturing's expansion in Catawba County. While compensation will vary by position, average salaries for the new jobs associated with the One NC grant are expected to be \$47,840, above the Catawba County's current average annual wage of \$39,780.

In addition to [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other key partners in the project include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), the [City of Claremont, Catawba County](#), [Duke Energy](#), the [N.C. Department of Transportation](#), the [Western Piedmont Council of Governments](#), and the [Catawba County Economic Development Corporation](#).

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Automotive Manufacturing Company Will Expand in Scotland County

FCC (North Carolina), a Japan-based manufacturer of automotive parts, will expand operations in Scotland County and create 28 jobs over three years, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced June 30. The company plans to invest \$826,500 in Laurinburg with this expansion.

"I'm excited that FCC is bringing manufacturing production from overseas to Scotland County where people are eager and ready for these kinds of skilled jobs," **Governor Cooper** said. "Our efforts to recruit good jobs for North Carolina are focused on helping counties large and small, urban and rural succeed."

FCC (North Carolina) is part of a global production network under the Japanese parent company FCC Co. Ltd. The company has two plants in Scotland County. One manufactures clutch and transmission parts, the other manufactures friction material. Primary customers include Honda, Ford and Fiat Chrysler.

"This project will transfer some of FCC's production from Japan to North Carolina," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Tony Copeland**. "FCC had other options, and the company decided to bring this

Street Accreditation For 2017

N.C. Commerce's Main Street & Rural Planning Center reports 39 North Carolina communities have achieved accreditation from the National Main Street Center® for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Main Street Center®, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The news was released on June 27.

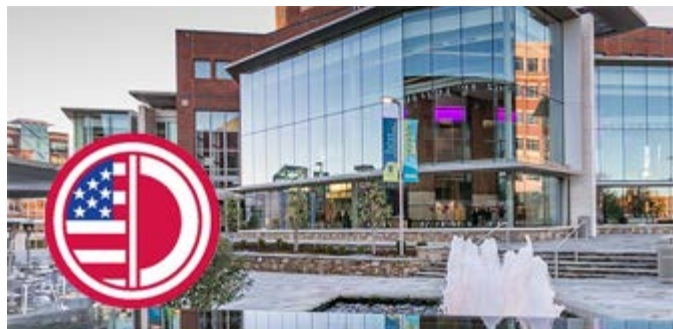
The North Carolina Main Street communities that have earned accreditation for their 2016 performance are Belmont, Boone, Brevard, Cherryville, Clinton, Concord, Eden, Edenton, Elkin, Garner, Goldsboro, Hendersonville, Hickory, Kings Mountain, Lenoir, Lexington, Lumberton, Marion, Monroe, Morganton, North Wilkesboro, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount, Roxboro, Rutherfordton, Salisbury, Sanford, Shelby, Smithfield, Spruce Pine, Statesville, Sylva, Tryon, Valdese, Wake Forest, Waxhaw, Waynesville, Williamston, and Wilson.

"Strong, thriving main streets are a key in ensuring strong communities, especially in rural parts of the state," said **N.C. Commerce Secretary Tony Copeland**. "We're proud that our Main Street communities have been recognized on a national level for their achievements. These local programs assist communities in bringing jobs and businesses to their downtowns, which helps overall communities enjoy a healthier, more robust economy."

North Carolina is one of the original states to administer the National Main Street Program. The North Carolina Main Street & Rural Planning Center evaluates each of the state's local Main Street organizations annually to identify those programs that meet ten performance standards.

"Those communities meeting the standards understand that downtown economic development requires a comprehensive approach, which is the basis for the National Main Street Program," said **Liz Parham, director of the North Carolina Main Street Center**. "We're proud of the accomplishments of the 39 North Carolina communities that have achieved national accreditation."

More information about the Main Street program is available online at nccommerce.com/rd/main-street.



The Peace Center in Greenville, S.C., one of the venues for the upcoming SEUS/Japan Conference.

SEUS/Japan Conference Coming to South Carolina in October - Registration Open

North Carolina economic developers and business executives aiming to increase opportunities in Japan should consider attending the 40th Annual Joint Meeting between the Southeast

business to our state because of our business climate, infrastructure and our people."

"The hard work and dedication of our associates and the support from Laurinburg, Scotland County and the State have made our first 16 years very successful," said **Wayne Cromartie, Administration Manager for FCC (North Carolina)**. "Our company possesses some of the most advanced clutch technology in the marketplace today, and with strong state and local government partnerships, we are well positioned to pursue opportunities for further growth."

A performance-based grant of \$90,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate FCC's expansion in Scotland County.

In addition to [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other key partners in the project include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Scotland County](#), and the [Scotland County Economic Development Corporation](#).

[Read more.](#)



August 10 SBA Deadline for Nonprofits Seeking Economic Injury Disaster Loans

The U.S. Small Business Administration has issued a reminder that private nonprofit organizations in North Carolina have until August 10 to submit applications for its Economic Injury Disaster Loans. The loans are for damages caused by Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

Private nonprofits that are located in these counties are eligible to apply: Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chatham, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Martin, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Tyrrell, Wake, Washington, Wayne and Wilson.

The SBA offers these examples of eligible non-critical, nonprofit organizations: food

U.S./Japan and Japan-U.S Southeast Associations. Registration is now open for the meeting, to be held in Greenville, South Carolina October 22-24, 2017.

North Carolina is a founding member of SEUS/Japan, an association of seven southeastern states created in 1976. The state's participation aims to encourage foreign direct investment (FDI) from Japanese companies, as well as strengthen export ties for North Carolina companies selling goods in Japan.

North Carolinians interested in joining the state's delegation to the conference may contact David Rhoades, State Coordinator for the conference at (919) 814-4611 or [by email](#).

kitchens, homeless shelters, museums, libraries, community centers, schools and colleges. These examples are not meant to offer a comprehensive list.

Applicants may apply for a loan online using the [SBA's secure website](#). Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing).

N.C. in the News

- [Funds to help NCEast Alliance promote life science sector](#) (*Rocky Mount Telegram* - July 10)
- [Ethan Allen plans to upgrade facility, hire more people](#) (*McDowell News* - June 27)
- [More than 100 grads have jobs thanks to manufacturing institute](#) (*Independent Tribune* - Concord - June 26)
- [Nine ways Randleman can grow](#) (*Courier Tribune* - Asheboro - June 24)

About Us

SYNC is North Carolina Commerce's electronic newsletter for local government officials, private-sector allies, state policy makers, and other economic development leaders. We offer unfiltered details about new economic development projects and events, useful news about your peers, and opportunities to synchronize with statewide programs and tools in order to advance economic development in your community. [Send your story ideas to the editor.](#)

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