



316 Jobs on Tap as Global Investment Firm Selects N.C. for East Coast HQ

Governor Pat McCrory, North Carolina Commerce Secretary John E. Skvarla, III and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina announced July 8 that Dimensional Fund Advisors LP (Dimensional) will be locating its East Coast regional headquarters in Mecklenburg County. The company plans to create 316 jobs in Charlotte by the end of 2020. There will also be capital investment of approximately \$105 million for acquiring property, building and outfitting a new office building. The new facilities could be completed as early as 2018.

"Charlotte has established itself as the major financial center and is well-suited for Dimensional," said Governor McCrory. "This will be a great addition to North Carolina's portfolio of financial companies."

Headquartered in Austin, Texas, Dimensional is a leading global investment firm that has been translating academic research into practical investment solutions since 1981.

"In selecting Charlotte for its East Coast regional headquarters, Dimensional will be able to take full advantage of the financial and IT workforce that North Carolina has to offer," said Secretary Skvarla. "The Queen City is known for its financial sector, and we are excited to welcome yet another new business to North Carolina."

Jobs functions will span a broad range of administrative, client services, sales, investment management, IT services and leadership positions. Salaries will vary by job function with average annual wages projected to be \$147,025. The average annual wage reported in Mecklenburg County is \$59,882."



Gov. Pat McCrory (right) presents a commemorative china plate to Dr. Donald E. Brown, Founder and CEO of Interactive Intelligence

Software and Cloud Services Firm Expands in Durham, Bringing 200 Jobs

Interactive Intelligence Group Inc. (Nasdaq: ININ) will be expanding in Durham County. The company plans to create 200 new jobs in Durham within the next five years. Interactive Intelligence's capital investment will be \$1.2 million by the end of 2019.

Governor Pat McCrory made the announcement at an event with company and local officials July 16.

"Nothing Compares to North Carolina's IT workforce," said Governor McCrory. "This company knows it can find well qualified employees in the Triangle to stay on the cutting edge of technology."

Interactive Intelligence provides software and cloud services for customer engagement, unified communications and collaboration. Of the company's 2,000-plus employees worldwide, more than 100 are currently based in North Carolina.

"Interactive Intelligence is on the leading edge of cloud technology, making it a great fit in the high-tech Triangle region," said Secretary Skvarla. "We're excited the business chose to grow in North Carolina."

"We had the option of locating this effort anywhere in the world," said Interactive Intelligence Founder and CEO Dr. Donald E.

"This is an exciting time for Dimensional as we embark on expanding our business operations to Charlotte," said David Booth, Chairman and co-CEO of Dimensional. "We are energized by Charlotte's vibrancy and believe our business is well matched for the community."

The project was made possible in part by a reimbursement award to Dimensional from the state Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) program. Over 12 years, the JDIG could yield more than \$10.3 million to the company, funded using a portion of the withholding taxes from the new employees, and after the company has followed through on its commitment to create the 316 jobs.

Since the company chose to locate in Mecklenberg County, more than \$3.4 million in additional funds from the company's JDIG award could be added to the state's Utility Fund for infrastructure improvements in economically distressed counties.

In addition to [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other partners that helped with this project include: [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Central Piedmont Community College](#), [City of Charlotte](#), [Mecklenburg County](#), [Charlotte Center City Partners](#), and the [Charlotte Chamber of Commerce](#).

[Read more.](#)

11 Innovative Companies Win Grants Totalling Nearly \$545,000

Companies working to offer relief to glaucoma patients, better protection for military vehicles and ways to fight obesity are among the recipients of the latest round of One North Carolina Small Business Fund grants announced July 7. Eleven companies will receive awards totaling \$544,967.

"North Carolina faces tremendous competition from other states who want our budding high-growth, high-wage companies," said Governor Pat McCrory. "These grants help keep North Carolina in the race for our next home-grown success story."

Recipients of One North Carolina Small Business Fund grants must first have been awarded one of two highly competitive federal grants, either a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) or a Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) award. Federal funders for this round of North Carolina grantees include the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Special Operations Command (Department of Defense) and the U.S. Army. North Carolina matches up to half the federal money, with a \$50,000 maximum per grant. The budget for this program is \$2.5 million for Fiscal Year 2015.

"North Carolina is a great place to grow technology companies," said N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla. "These small businesses will advance the technology in the fields of health care, defense and agriculture. These small businesses will someday become big businesses employing many people."

Grant recipients include:

- **Affinergy, LLC of Durham:** \$50,000 for a test measuring the hormone hepcidin, responsible for regulating iron concentration levels in blood, thereby helping to diagnose renal disease, cancer, inflammatory diseases, and heart disease.

Brown. "We chose the RTP area because of the wealth of technical talent, the concentration of great universities, and the business-friendly environment. That choice has paid off well as we've brought to market the most advanced cloud-based business services ever created."

In addition to [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other partners that helped with this project include: [North Carolina Community College System](#), [NCWorks](#), [Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce](#), [Durham County](#), and the [City of Durham](#).

[Read more.](#)



Nutec to Construct New Facility and Hire More Than 60 Employees

Nutec Group, an international company headquartered in Monterrey, Mexico has selected North Carolina for a new advanced manufacturing facility, creating 61 new jobs over the next three years. The company plans to invest \$19.2 million in the town of Huntersville over the same period to construct a new 62,500 square foot plant.

"North Carolina is connected with another first as Nutec chose our great state for its first United States manufacturing plant," said Governor Pat McCrory. "Our manufacturing base continues to grow and strengthen."

Nutec Group operates plants in Ramos Arizpe, Mexico; Berriz, Spain; and San Paulo, Brazil. With more than 40 years of experience, Nutec is a quality producer of high temperature insulation fibers. Nutec products are used in the fire protection, metal, glass, automotive and petroleum industries.

"Nutec recognized that North Carolina's highly skilled workforce is a great fit along with great location to make and distribute products to its U.S. and Canadian customers," said N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla. "This expansion sends a strong signal that manufacturing is alive and well in our state."

"Nutec is proud to announce an expansion of its manufacturing technology into the state of North Carolina," said Gerardo Muraira, Nutec Operations Director. "North Carolina was chosen for the location for the utility and transportation advantages and the state contains an exceptional workforce. In addition, we can service our customer base quicker and provide more cost effective

- **Akoustis, Inc. of Cornelius:** \$50,000 for the development of more efficient and effective components for mobile devices.
- **Camras Vision, Inc. of Durham:** \$50,000 for development of an adjustable pressure control device that is inserted in the eye to reduce harmful eye pressure of glaucoma patients.
- **Corvid Technologies, LLC of Mooresville:** \$50,000 for new military vehicle armor that is stronger, cheaper, less conspicuous and lighter.
- **Edison Agrosociences of Durham:** \$45,000 to develop a new DNA transfer method for easier, cheaper gene manipulation of plants.
- **Kepley Biosystems, Inc. of Greensboro:** \$50,000 for a commercial non-fish crab and lobster lure, thereby saving fish stocks, the source of existing lures.
- **Keranetics, LLC of Winston Salem:** \$49,967 to create local application of pain medicine to combat burns, freeing soldiers from current oral, addicting pain killers.
- **TriboFilm Research, Inc. of Raleigh:** \$50,000 for an improved silicone lubrication system for pre-filled syringes, reducing silicone contamination during medicine delivery.
- **Xintek Inc. of Durham:** \$50,000 for a high-resolution three-dimensional dental X-ray imaging system with low ray dose and cost.
- **Zen-Bio, Inc. of Durham:** \$50,000 to use adult "brown fat" (Brown Adipocyte Tissue) to manipulate metabolism to fight obesity and related diseases.
- **Roundtable Analytics, LLC of Durham:** \$50,000 to develop decision-support software that improves emergency department performance.



For more information about the One North Carolina Small Business Fund and how to apply and qualify for the grants, [visit the N.C. Board of Science and Technology's website.](#)

Focus on Fraud Reduction Yields Nearly \$1 Million for Public Schools

The North Carolina Industrial Commission's Fraud and Compliance team has collected nearly \$1 million in civil penalties from North Carolina businesses that operated without required workers' compensation insurance coverage during the past fiscal year. The proceeds from these penalties go to a state fund used exclusively for maintaining the public school system.

"Unlawful employers that fail to provide required workers' compensation insurance coverage are a drain on North Carolina's legitimate businesses, health care providers, and taxpayers," said Industrial Commission Chairman Andrew T. Heath. "The Industrial Commission's efforts to bring businesses into compliance are reflective of Governor McCrory's commitment to protecting North Carolina's workforce and business community."

In fiscal year 2014-2015, the Commission collected \$992,965 in civil penalties. This is nearly triple the amount collected in fiscal year 2013-2014, and a five-fold increase from fiscal year 2012-2013 collections. The Commission collected an additional \$311,630 in non-fraud penalties in fiscal year 2014-2015 that will also go to public schools.

Chairman Heath credited the Commission's hard-working

transportation."

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the One North Carolina Fund of up to \$100,000.

In addition to [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other partners that helped with this project include: [N.C. Department of Transportation](#), [N.C. Revenue](#), [NCWorks](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Mecklenburg County](#), [Town of Huntersville](#), [Lake Norman Economic Development](#), [Energy United](#), [Charlotte Chamber of Commerce](#), and the [Charlotte Regional Partnership](#).

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Southeast U.S./Japan Conference Registration Opens

Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will deliver a keynote address at the 38th Annual Joint Meeting between the Southeast U.S. and Japan this fall.

The business conference will be held November 15-17 in Birmingham, Alabama, one of seven southeastern states that are members of the SEUS/Japan association. The association plans and hosts the meeting with its Japanese counterpart each year.

Dr. Rice, the 66th Secretary of State for the nation and a Birmingham native will offer an informed take on today's international landscape.



To review the preliminary conference agenda or to learn how to register, visit nccommerce.com/seusjapan. Or call North Carolina's SEUS/Japan State Coordinator David Rhoades at (919) 715-6556 or email him at drhoades@nccommerce.com.

N.C. in the News

- [Chatham Economic Development Corp.: President Dianne Reid to retire](#) (Triad

Compliance and Fraud Investigative Division staff, as well as the Commission's fraud alerting tool, the Noncompliant Employer Targeting System (NETS). NETS, created in conjunction with the Government Data Analytics Center (GDAC) and SAS Institute Inc., uses data from various state agencies to create a list of potentially noncompliant businesses which the Commission then reviews.

"While I am pleased with our progress in cracking down on employer non-compliance, the Commission will continue its intensive enforcement initiatives until every business meets its obligations under the Workers' Compensation Act," said Chairman Heath. "Unethical and illegitimate business owners will find no safe harbor here in North Carolina."

[Read more.](#)



(Left-right) N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla; Lucy Ito, President and CEO, National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors; Rose Conner, Administrator, N.C. Credit Union Division and John Radebaugh President and CEO, Carolinas Credit Union League

Skvarla Addresses Credit Union Officials

N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla delivered opening remarks July 8 at the North Carolina Credit Union Division Industry Day, a gathering of executive managers and directors for state-chartered credit unions.

Skvarla provided the group with a snapshot of the state's economy, along with an update on North Carolina's economic incentive programs and negotiations concerning those programs currently underway at the General Assembly.

Business Journal - July 17)

- [Top N.C. recruiter concerned state 'disarming' itself in incentives battle](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - July 16)
- [Two key state funding programs help life science companies get off the ground](#) (*WRAL TechWire* - July 16)
- [North Carolina's top job recruiter](#) (*Fox8 - High Point* - July 15)
- [Forbes: Raleigh-Cary is No. 3 among metros creating white-collar jobs](#) (*Triangle Business Journal* - July 15)
- [The Cities Creating The Most White-Collar Jobs](#) (*Forbes* - July 13)
- [South getting its first big wind farm soon](#) (*AP, via WRAL.com* - July 12)

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