

# sync<sup>TM</sup>

Weekly highlights from the  
North Carolina Department of Commerce

## Steel Fabrication Manufacturer to Expand in Surry County

Governor Pat McCrory and N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker announced on July 3 that [Ottenweller Company](#) will expand its steel fabrication manufacturing operation in Surry County. The company plans to create 20 new jobs and invest more than \$1.5 million over the next three years in Mount Airy. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Jan Critz](#) was the developer on this project.

"Ottenweller is a great example of the growth and success that many companies are experiencing in North Carolina," said McCrory. "We will continue to improve our economy by working with existing businesses and providing jobs for residents in Surry County and across our great state."

Ottenweller is a 100-year-old, family-owned metal fabricator based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, with additional plants in Indianapolis and Mount Airy. The company, with 60 employees in Mount Airy, is regarded as a world class leader in the fabrication of complex structures requiring cutting, welding, forming, machining, painting, and assembly of modules that are used on large construction equipment and off-road trucks.

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the [One North Carolina Fund](#) of up to \$50,000. 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.

Other partners that helped with this project include: N.C. Community Colleges, Surry County, City of Mount Airy, Surry County Economic Development Partnership, Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments/Workforce Development and Workforce Solutions Mount Airy. [Read more.](#)



*Colleen Athans, VP and GM of Supply Chain, GE Aviation with Gov. Pat McCrory and N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker*

## GE Aviation to Expand in North Carolina

Governor Pat McCrory and North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker announced today (July 9) that GE Aviation, a global leader in jet engine and aircraft system production, will be expanding its manufacturing operations at four facilities in North Carolina. The project will create 242 new jobs and bring a capital investment of \$195 million over the next five years.

GE Aviation's intent to expand was announced last month at the Paris Air Show.

"Part of our state's economic recovery not only relies on creating new jobs here, but also on retaining great companies like GE," said Governor McCrory. "We're serious about building on existing industries in North Carolina and this project is a perfect example of our commitment." [Read more.](#)



*N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker (left) and N.C. Representative John Faircloth sample some of the snack products made by LC America.*



Governor McCrory (center) cuts the ribbon at UTC Aerospace Systems' renovated headquarters in Charlotte

## UTC Aerospace Systems Celebrates Grand Opening

UTC Aerospace Systems celebrated the grand opening of its corporate headquarters on West Tyvola Road in Charlotte on June 28. The event included remarks from Governor Pat McCrory and company leaders. UTC Aerospace Systems is a unit of United Technologies Corp., based in Hartford, Conn. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Rod Forsythe](#) was the original developer on this project.

During the ceremony, UTC Aerospace Systems announced a commitment of \$250,000 to Discovery Place's new professional development program for educators of science, technology, engineering, and math. The new STEM Fellows Program, which will be housed at the Bank of America STEM Center for Career Development adjacent to Discovery Place's uptown Charlotte complex, is dedicated to providing pre-K through 12 STEM educators with intensive learning experiences and ongoing support.

The ceremony also included a check presentation of \$30,000 to the Charlotte chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Many of the employees of UTC Aerospace Systems volunteer for Habitat for Humanity build projects throughout the year.

Located at Four Coliseum Centre, UTC Aerospace System headquarters recently underwent a major renovation to accommodate up to 300 employees over the next several years. United Technologies Corp. acquired Goodrich Corp. in 2012, combined it with UTC's Hamilton Sundstrand unit and established the headquarters of the new company in Charlotte.

UTC Aerospace Systems designs, manufactures and services integrated systems and components for the aerospace and defense industries. The company supports a global customer base with significant worldwide manufacturing and customer service facilities.

[Charlotte leaders inaugurate UTC Aerospace HQ](#) (*The Charlotte Observer*, June 28)

## Italian Snack Maker Sets up Shop in High Point

N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker joined High Point officials on June 28 to celebrate the opening of an Italian snack food maker. LC America began operations in January at 8221 Tyner Road in a 68,000-square-foot plant previously occupied by Streuli Sales, a wooden door manufacturer.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the plant, which makes snack pellets, a semi-finished food that is sold to snack food manufacturers. The company employs about 23 workers. It's the first North American manufacturing facility by Le Caselle, a snack food company based in Italy.



## FCC North Carolina Adds 96 Jobs and \$80 Million Investment in Scotland County

This past spring, City of Laurinburg, Scotland County and N.C. Department of Commerce officials gathered to celebrate the announcement of FCC North Carolina LLC, which manufactures transmission components and clutches for the automotive and power sport industries. This announcement, which totals \$80 million dollars and 96 new employees, marks one of the largest single amounts of investment in Scotland County history.

This project was previously announced as \$57.6 million and 66 jobs, but due to increased demand, FCC North Carolina made the decision to grow the scope of the project.

FCC will add 160,000 square feet of new manufacturing space in Laurinburg, which will begin its friction paper production in the U.S., while also adding 92,000 square feet at its existing facility in Laurel Hill.



N.C. Film Office Director Aaron Syrett (seated) joined by (left-right) Wilmington's Johnny Griffin, Charlotte's Beth Petty and the Piedmont Triad's Rebecca Clark

## State's Film Industry Touted at Tradeshow in L.A.

The N.C. Film Office and regional representatives from the Wilmington, Piedmont Triad and Charlotte film commissions were in Los Angeles last month for the annual Association of Film Commissioners International's Locations Tradeshow. Held at the Los Angeles Convention Center, the annual event drew more than 2,500 film industry professionals who came to learn more about the different types of locations, tax incentives, crew bases, and established infrastructures of various states, regions and countries. More than 100 exhibitors from around the world participated in the tradeshow. Due to the successes of *Iron Man 3* and the television series *Revolution*, *Homeland* and *Under the Dome*, the delegation heard positive feedback regarding filming in North Carolina. State and regional officials touted North Carolina's 25 percent refundable tax credit, vast array of location types, and the large and experienced crew base of more than 4,000 individuals as highlights for bringing projects to the Tar Heel State. [Read more.](#)



The crew of *Extreme Frontiers USA* filming on Jockey's Ridge

## U.K. TV Crew Records N.C. Adventures

A TV crew from Charley Boorman's *Extreme Frontiers USA* filmed unique adventures around the state last week for an upcoming show, and Division of Tourism, Film and Sports

FCC originally located in Scotland County in 2001 and has continued to invest in the community as its business has grown due to its dedicated pursuit of superior quality products in the automotive industry.

## Gossage Tours Downtown Roseboro

N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary and Director of Innovation Support Bryan Gossage, accompanied by Small Town Main Street Coordinator Bob Murphrey, visited the community of Roseboro for a first-hand look at how a small town can benefit from the Small Town Main Street Program. Roseboro Mayor David Alexander, former Mayor Roland Hall and STMS Chairman Richard Barefoot hosted a walking tour of downtown, pointing out the successes since joining the STMS program in 2008.

The downtown has seen nine new businesses open, including a drug store, furniture store, two restaurants, and several other businesses. The town's investment has included seven loans from its Revolving Loan Fund and eleven Facade Improvement Grants. The town also applied for and received a USDA grant to develop an off-street parking lot.

Gossage also visited with several downtown business owners to learn their opinions of the program, as well as additional needs they felt would help continue the downtown's progress.



(Left-right) NCTA President & CEO Brooks Raiford, N.C. Department of Commerce Business Development Manager Rick Hill and Director of International Trade Jean Davis

## ITD Co-Hosts "Protecting Your IP in China" seminar

On June 24, the N.C. Technology Association, in partnership with the N.C. Department of Commerce's International Trade Division and the U.S. Small Business Administration, hosted a luncheon seminar on "Protecting

Development Public Relations Manager Margo Metzger guided the group. On Monday of last week, they flew the Wright Brothers glider at Jockey's Ridge State Park, courtesy of Kitty Hawk Kites. Tuesday, they learned about whole hog barbecue at Skylight Inn in Ayden and camped overnight with the wild horses on the Crystal Coast's Shackleford Banks. The rest of the week included diving on a shipwreck, an Independence Day celebration in Charlotte, riding The Dragon in Deals Gap, and rappelling down a waterfall with Green River Adventures in Polk County. *Extreme Frontiers USA*, sponsored by Brand USA, "uses natural geography to create awesome adventures" and will air around the world at a later date to more than 100 million viewers. Photos from the trip are [here](#).

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### Three N.C. Communities Named 2013 All-America Cities

The National Civic League last month named the ten winners of the 2013 All-America City Awards, an honor given each year to towns, cities, counties, neighborhoods, and metropolitan regions for outstanding civic achievement. Of the ten winners, three are in North Carolina - Dunn, Garner and Thomasville.

Since 1949, the awards program has recognized more than 650 communities for addressing local challenges with innovative, grassroots strategies that promote civic engagement and cooperation between the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

Hundreds of civic leaders and community volunteers met in Denver June 14-16 to exchange ideas and present their stories of positive change to a jury of civic experts. Members of each delegation described in detail their community's response to a range of challenges, everything from joblessness to housing deterioration from the mortgage crisis to providing health care for returning veterans. This year's awards had a special focus on communities that implemented programs to recognize or assist veterans and military families.

Garner's presentation highlighted citizen-led efforts to build the Garner Veterans Memorial, to boost the performing arts scene at Garner Performing Arts Center, and to create and sustain Community of Hope's after-school program, food pantry and other activities.

Dunn's presentation featured the work of the Dunn Police Athletic League, a profile of Central Harnett Hospital and the revitalization of Dunn's downtown.

Your Intellectual Property in China" as part of NCTA's Go Global program series.

The program provided insight from three experts: Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice Partner Jack Hicks, Connect East President Joy Huang and Prochips Chairman Michael Zapata. They discussed the necessary steps businesses should take when registering and protecting their IP in China.

Representatives from more than 50 small businesses attended. "This was some of the most valuable, critical and useful information for entering the China market," stated one attendee who is about to expand into China.

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### Commerce to Co-Host Aerospace Supplier Conference Next Month

U.S. Senator Richard Burr, the N.C. Aerospace Alliance, the N.C. Military Business Center, and the N.C. Department of Commerce will co-host the [2013 N.C. Aerospace Supplier Conference](#) in Winston-Salem on Aug. 15. The goal of the event is to promote and grow the state's aerospace industry by bringing together North Carolina users, purchasers, manufacturers, and suppliers through education, networking and growth opportunities, as well as sharing "best practices" in order to provide job growth, financial stability and a stronger industry in the state. The conference will provide opportunities for North Carolina companies to interact with aerospace prime contractors, as they identify their defense and commercial aerospace projects and needs. Burr will open the conference with keynote remarks. The [agenda](#) is set, [sponsorships](#) are available, and registration is open.

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### 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

Thomasville highlighted its work with veterans and homeless children and its campaign against childhood obesity.

The All-America City Award recognizes citizen engagement, cross-sector collaboration, innovation and inclusiveness. It showcases grassroots solutions to meeting pressing challenges and critical needs in communities across the country. The prestigious award has been dubbed the "Nobel Prize" for civic accomplishment.

businesses throughout the state; and the number of contacts received by the Business Link North Carolina/Business ServiCenter.

Jan. 1 - July 8, 2013

<b>New projects assigned:</b>	202
<b>Projects announced:</b>	62
<b>Jobs announced:</b>	9,717
<b>Capital investment announced:</b>	\$719M
<b>Industry visits by existing industry staff:</b>	718
<b>Calls to Business Link N.C.:</b>	10,694

## N.C. in the News

### This Week's Highlights

- [UnitedHealthcare bringing 85 jobs to Raleigh](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, July 3)
- [Hallmark to shoot Christmas film in Wilmington](#) (*StarNews* - Wilmington, July 3)
- [Greensboro software tester Zenergy adding jobs](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, July 2)
- [Feds give Gaston College manufacturing center \\$1.5M grant](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, July 2)
- [O2 Energies plans 30-acre solar farm for Fairmont](#) (*The Fayetteville Observer*, July 1)
- [CB&I gives \\$100K to Central Piedmont Community College for welding program](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, July 1)
- [Far from the Rust Belt: Nucor makes steel in Hertford County](#) (*News & Observer* - Raleigh, June 30)
- ['Temple Run' franchise now calls Raleigh home](#) (*News & Observer* - Raleigh, June 30)
- [Jobs returning to area furniture plant](#) (*Gaston Gazette*, June 29)

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