

# sync<sup>TM</sup>

Weekly highlights from the  
North Carolina Department of Commerce



Gov. Bev Perdue accepts framed burgees from Hatteras employee Harry Davis, left, and James Meyer, president of Hatteras Yachts. The burgees, of Hatteras and Cabo yachts, were signed by employees. (Photo by Byron Holland, courtesy of the New Bern Sun-Journal)

## Perdue, Crisco welcome Hatteras yachts

Gov. Bev Perdue and N.C. Dept. of Commerce Sec. Keith Crisco were among the state and local leaders on hand Aug. 6 to celebrate Brunswick Corp.'s announcement that it will consolidate its Hatteras- and Cabo-brand yacht manufacturing operations at its New Bern plant.

"Hatteras Yachts, as you all know, has been a staple of New Bern's economy, and the region's economy, quite frankly, since (1959)," Perdue said. "It was here since I moved here in the late '70s, and we've been through great times when nobody around the world could buy yachts fast enough to hard times in other recessions, but never as hard as these past three years when the global economy was stressed."

"Bringing our brands under one physical roof will allow us to fully leverage our technological and operational advantages, better serve our dealers and customers, reduce fixed costs and more effectively use our available manufacturing capacity," explained Hatteras President James R. Meyer. [Read more.](#)

[Perdue, leaders welcome Cabo Yachts](#) (New Bern Sun-Journal, Aug. 6, includes video of the announcement)



## Caterpillar to bring 485 jobs to Lee County

On Aug. 5, Gov. Bev Perdue announced that Caterpillar Inc., the largest maker of construction and mining equipment, diesel and natural gas engines, and industrial gas turbines in the world, will expand its manufacturing facilities in Lee County.

The company plans to create 325 jobs over the next four years. In addition, a company supplier is expected to locate 160 jobs in North Carolina as part of the expansion, bringing the total to 485 jobs. Caterpillar will invest \$28.3 million as part of the project in Sanford, which was made possible in part by state grants from the Job Development Investment Grant program and One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Jamie Vaughn was the developer on the project.

This is the second job announcement for Caterpillar in one week. On July 30 the company revealed it will expand its manufacturing facilities in Winston-Salem, investing \$426 million and creating 392 jobs. [Read more.](#)

[Caterpillar creating 325 jobs at Sanford plant](#) (The Fayetteville Observer, Aug. 6)

## Plant-Based vaccine company to bring 85 jobs to RTP

Gov. Bev Perdue on Aug. 10 announced that Medicago [Med-ih-CAH-go] USA Inc. will locate a new vaccine production facility in Durham. The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Medicago, Inc., a publicly traded

---

## Ethan Allen expansion to bring 90 jobs to McDowell County

Gov. Bev Perdue on Aug. 4 announced that Ethan Allen Operations Inc., a manufacturer of Ethan Allen Interiors, will expand in Old Fort. The company plans to create 90 jobs and invest \$250,000 to expand its production capacity. The project was made possible in part by a \$270,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Bill Payne was the developer on the project.

Ethan Allen, established in 1932, is an American brand with global reach, manufacturing about 70 percent of its products in seven North American plants. The company's Old Fort plant manufactures high quality, solid wood case goods furniture such as dining and bedrooms sets for its North American and international design centers. The company also manufactures upholstery furniture in Maiden and has about 1,300 employees in North Carolina. [Read more.](#)

[Ethan Allen plant in Old Fort to add 90 new jobs](#) (McDowell News, Aug. 4)

---

## Norandal plant in Rowan County to get 25 jobs

Gov. Bev Perdue on Aug. 6 announced that Noranda Aluminum Holding Corp will expand its Norandal USA plant in Salisbury. The company plans to create 25 jobs and invest \$7 million. The project was made possible in part by a \$108,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Uconda Dunn was the developer on this project.

"This is great news for Rowan County -- and the second time this week we have announced expansions there," said Gov. Perdue. "Companies know they have a workforce they can count on and a highly motivated team of economic development partners, as well as a state that will support their growth and success."

Norandal USA, a wholly owned subsidiary of Noranda, includes the company's rolling-mills business. Rolling mills, such as the one in Salisbury, take aluminum and roll it into metal sheets and foil for commercial use. The grant-supported expansion will allow the company to update machinery and increase capacity.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the annual average wage for the new jobs will be \$43,097 not including benefits. The Rowan County average annual wage is \$35,048. The company currently employs 163 in Salisbury.

---

## Building materials maker to bring 25 jobs to Rowan County

On Aug. 3, Gov. Bev Perdue announced that Boral Composites Inc., a sister company to Boral Bricks in East Spencer, plans to open a plant to produce a new green product line for homebuilding. The company plans to create 25 jobs and invest \$12.8 million. The project was made possible in part by a \$50,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Uconda Dunn was the developer on this project.

BCI is an independent, wholly owned subsidiary of Boral USA,

company based in Quebec, Canada. The firm plans to create 85 jobs in Research Triangle Park. The project was made possible in part by a \$128,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Garrett Wyckoff was the developer on this project.

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has awarded Medicago a \$21 million research grant to improve the process of large-quantity H1N1 vaccine production using plant-based technology. The company is currently using tobacco leaves to produce pandemic and seasonal influenza vaccines. Medicago's project with DARPA will lead to a total investment of more than \$32 million in Research Triangle Park.

[RTP attracts new vaccine plant](#) (The News & Observer - Raleigh, Aug. 10)

---



Homeowner Patricia Nixon and U.S. Rep. Mel Watt

## Watt views weatherization work

U.S. Rep. Mel Watt visited the home of Patricia Nixon in High Point on Aug. 3 to get a first-hand look at the work of the N.C. Weatherization Assistance Program and Regional Consolidated Services, the weatherization services provider for Guilford County. On hand to show Rep. Watt around were N.C. Dept. of Commerce Assistant Sec. for Energy Jennifer Bumgarner, Benny Wofford of Regional Consolidated Services, Regional Consolidated Services Board President Maria Bliss, homeowner Patricia Nixon, Regional Consolidated Services Executive Director Janice Scarborough and N.C. Weatherization Section Chief Rita Joyner.

which owns large building products manufacturers and construction materials suppliers. Boral USA has approximately 2,500 employees at 162 sites in North America, including two other North Carolina sites, in Charlotte and Lake Norman. Both BCI and Boral USA have their headquarters in Roswell, Ga. [Read more.](#)

[Rowan wins Boral plant](#) (Charlotte Business Journal, Aug. 3)



Caldwell County EDC Executive Director Harry Whalen and N.C. Dept. of Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll

### Three N.C. counties recognize Canadian manufacturer at joint event

During a ceremony at the City-County Chambers in Lenoir on July 31, Magna Exteriors and Interiors was welcomed by local and state officials, including N.C. Dept. of Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll.

"It's an indication that the economy is beginning to pick up," Carroll said. "Manufacturing is still an important part of the North Carolina economy."

Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, Magna is the largest automotive supplier in North America. The publicly traded company has been seeking to diversify into other areas and acquired the assets of auto parts company Meridian last year. The company will have operations in Caldwell, Catawba and Rowan counties, with the Lenoir location focusing on manufacturing parts for clients such as Ford, General Motors, Volvo, Trane and Aquatic Industries.

The company has received approval from a jobs incentive grant through Commerce to create 327 new positions among the three locations, including 134 at the Lenoir location. In addition, Caldwell County has approved providing \$2,000 per new job created up to 181 posts, while Lenoir has agreed to grant back 75 percent of created ad valorem tax base for a period of four years. [Read more.](#)

[Parts manufacturer announces operation](#) (News-Topic - Lenoir, Aug, 9)

### Internships available for qualified clean energy businesses in the west



(Left-right) N.C. Dept. of Commerce Assistant Sec. for Energy Jennifer Bumgarner, Benny Wofford of Regional Consolidated Services, Regional Consolidated Services Board President Maria Bliss, homeowner Patricia Nixon, Regional Consolidated Services Executive Director Janice Scarborough and N.C. Weatherization Section Chief Rita Joyner.

### Programs to provide \$18 million for N.C. farmers

Gov. Beverly Perdue on Aug. 2 announced an \$18.4 million package of programs to help North Carolina farmers rebound from the recession.

Under the Family Farm Innovation Fund, five state and federal programs will help farmers lower energy costs, launch renewable energy projects, implement value-added production and develop other sources of farm income. Over the next year, the program is expected to provide grants for up to 1,500 farm projects and energy efficiency training for an additional 2,400 farmers. [Read more.](#)

### Perdue announces grants for green workforce training

Gov. Bev Perdue, U.S. Rep. Heath Shuler, and Appalachian Regional Commission Federal Co-Chair Earl F. Gohl announced a \$300,000 grant on Aug. 5 to the Southwestern N.C. Planning & Economic Development Commission to assist three Appalachian community colleges in developing a green workforce training program.

The announcement of the grant was made during a press conference convened by the ARC at Western Carolina University. It will be matched by another \$494,000 in local funding for a total of \$794,000 to develop the training program. Some 400 students are anticipated to enroll in the program at Haywood, Southwestern, and Tri-County community colleges.



AdvantageWest is pleased to announce a call for applications for clean energy businesses in the 31 western-most counties of North Carolina to submit an internship position for consideration for the AdvantageGreen Energy Internships Program. The program, which has been made possible through the support of the N.C. Dept. of Commerce's State Energy Office, will place nine, 12-month paid internships with regional clean energy businesses providing experiential learning and training in a well-supported and supervised work environment. All businesses will have adequate work space and resources for their intern's assigned duties. Preference will be given to positions that maximize the desired impacts of this project as outlined in the Business Application Packet on the AdvantageGreen web site. Applications are due Friday August 13 at 5 pm. [See the call for applications.](#) [Read more.](#)

---

## RTI to develop registry for nanomaterials

Scientists at RTI International in Research Triangle Park will develop a registry for nanomaterials as part of a new contract from the National Institutes of Health's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Under terms of the federally funded three-year contract, worth \$2,889,367, researchers at RTI will establish a web-based registry that will provide curated information on the biological and environmental interactions of well-characterized nanomaterials.

The registry is being designed to facilitate data validation and data quality improvement of nanomaterials; enhance the development of new models, assays, standards, and manufacturing methods; and accelerate the translation of new nanomaterials for biomedical and environmental applications. [Read more.](#)

---



*CarolinaWest Members network with Southeastern U.S. firms in Charlotte.*

## CarolinaWest promotes Asheville-Hendersonville Area

On Aug. 6, local economic development corporations and allies comprising the CarolinaWest marketing team met with a solid turnout of the law, real estate, engineering and accounting firms who conduct site searches and help close job creation/investment deals in the Carolinas. N.C. Dept. of

The training curriculum will include civil engineering, sustainable technology, green weatherization and retrofitting, biofuel production, sustainable horticulture and hybrid automotive technology. [Read more.](#)

---

## Minges touts N.C. tourism on Carolina Business Review

N.C. Dept. of Commerce Assistant Sec. for Tourism, Marketing and Global Branding Lynn Minges discussed tourism and business issues in North Carolina on Carolina Business Review this week. Minges addressed the strength of tourism as an economic engine in North Carolina and the widespread support the tourism industry receives from Gov. Bev Perdue and the General Assembly. Citing the state's additional investment of \$1 million in tourism marketing, Minges discussed job growth and provided an update on current lodging and business trends in North Carolina. Appearing with VP of Communications Tom Crosby of AAA Carolinas, and President and CEO Matt Kennell of Columbia (S.C.) City Center Partnership, Minges also discussed with host Chris William the Gulf oil spill, new tourism products and other factors affecting travel this year. Carolina Business Review is the longest running and most widely watched syndicated program on business and industry in the Carolinas with nearly 1,000 weekly broadcasts across 22 PBS stations in North and South Carolina. [Watch the program.](#)

---

## Pollina ranks N.C. No. 5

North Carolina was ranked No. 5 in the annual Pollina Corporate Top 10 Pro-Business States report.

The study evaluates and ranks states based on 31 factors including taxes, human resources, right-to-work legislation, energy costs, infrastructure spending, workers compensation laws, economic incentive programs and state economic development efforts. [Learn more.](#)

---

## Metrics from B&I Division

Below are year-to-date metrics tracked by the N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Division of Business and Industry 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

Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll was the kickoff speaker, and Josh Hallingse of the Henderson County PED made a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of the group. Mark Clasby of the Haywood County EDC served as master of ceremonies. [See the regional presentation.](#)

---

## Perdue announces \$83M to expand broadband access

Gov. Bev Perdue on Aug. 4 announced that North Carolina has received \$83 million in five federal recovery grants to extend broadband connectivity in rural parts of North Carolina. These funds will create jobs upfront, and help spur economic development in these areas through expanded access to high-speed Internet.

The grants are five of 126 federal Recovery Act broadband projects recently announced as part of a second round of funding. In January, as part of first round awards, MCNC received \$28.2 million to build a 480-mile fiber-optic network for the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN). In July as part of round two awards, \$30 million in grants were awarded to expand broadband access in western North Carolina. [Read more.](#)

---

## Shirley discusses N.C.'s green economy on TV program

Larry Shirley, director of the N.C. Dept. of Commerce State Energy Office, participated in a discussion on the green economy on Energy Connections, a program on OPEN/net that aired on July 27. [See an archived stream of the show.](#)

---

## Commerce awards grant to Town of Mayodan

The N.C. Dept. of Commerce has awarded a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$325,000 to the Town of Mayodan to loan to McMichael Mills, Inc. The project will be used to renovate a vacant industrial building. The company has pledged to create 17 new jobs and invest more than \$1 million dollars as a result of this loan.

contacts received by the Business Link North Carolina/Business ServiCenter.

Jan. 1 - Aug. 9, 2010

New projects assigned:	274
Projects announced:	80
Jobs created:	11,034
Capital invested:	\$2.14B
Industry visits by existing industry staff:	797
Calls to the Business ServiCenter:	14,551

---

## N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [Wells Fargo adding investment banking jobs](#) (Charlotte Observer, Aug. 5)
- [Energy firms expect a lot more hiring](#) (Charlotte Observer, Aug. 4)
- [New train a big hit, officials say](#) (Charlotte Observer, Aug. 3)
- [Caterpillar supplier considering local investment](#) (The-Dispatch - Lexington, Aug. 2)
- [NCDOC members visit Port of Wilmington](#) (N.C. Ports' Stem to Stern newsletter, July 2010)
- [Lt. Gov. Dalton: Community colleges help lure businesses to N.C.](#) (News 14 Carolina, July 31)

---

**(919) 733-4151**

[Business Services](#) | [Community Services](#)  
[Tourism Services](#) | [Workforce Services](#) | [Press Room](#)

Building Location:  
301 North Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-1058

Mailing Address:  
4301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4301

---

[Invite a Friend](#)   [Unsubscribe](#)   [Subscribe](#)   [feedback@nc-sync.com](mailto:feedback@nc-sync.com)   [SYNC archive](#)