

syncTM

Weekly highlights from the
North Carolina Department of Commerce

Pharmaceutical Manufacturer to Create 100 Jobs in Durham County

Governor Pat McCrory and N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker announced on Sept. 25 that Purdue Pharma Manufacturing will build a new facility in Durham County. The company plans to create 100 new jobs and invest \$59 million over the next three years in Durham. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [David Spratley](#) was the developer on this project.

"North Carolina is recognized around the world for our bioscience and cutting-edge pharmaceutical companies," said McCrory. "We're committed to helping companies like Purdue Pharma grow their business and get more products to the global marketplace."

Purdue is engaged in the research, development, production, and marketing of prescription and over-the-counter medicines and health care products. Purdue is an industry leader in pain medication research and makes several important medications used to treat pain.

"Companies know North Carolina is home to some of the most talented pharmaceutical professionals in the world," said Decker. "We are delighted to have Purdue reinvest in North Carolina and wish them continued success in Durham."

The new Durham facility represents the second major investment Purdue has made in North Carolina. In 2000, Purdue opened a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Wilson, bringing approximately 180 new engineering, scientific and technical jobs to the state. The Wilson operation pioneered the use of product tracking technology and anti-counterfeit packaging to enable authentication and traceability of products from its warehouse all the way to the pharmacy shelf.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average annual wage for the new jobs will be \$70,199 plus benefits. The Durham County average annual wage is \$66,602.

"This decision underscores Purdue's commitment to the Raleigh/Durham region, and solidifies the company's footprint in North Carolina through the establishment of a manufacturing and technology hub," said Purdue President and CEO John H. Stewart. "This decision also reflects Purdue's ongoing commitment to invest in high-tech jobs within the state."



Governor McCrory speaking at LEE Industries in Conover

Governor McCrory Supports N.C. Manufacturing with Visit to LEE Industries

On Sept. 20, Governor Pat McCrory helped dedicate the new corporate offices for LEE Industries, a furniture and textile manufacturer. The company has created more than 75 jobs and invested \$2.5 million in Catawba County.

"We applaud LEE Industries for building on our state's proud history in furniture manufacturing," said McCrory. "We must continue to support investments that restore aging buildings to advanced manufacturing facilities that create jobs and other economic opportunities for our community."

LEE Industries Inc. is an upholstered furniture manufacturer originally established in 1969. The company renovated an old building which was once home to Conover Chair Company. The facility allows the company to increase manufacturing capabilities and accommodate the increase in sales of leather upholstered furniture. LEE Industries currently employs 608 people in North Carolina.

The project was made possible in part by a Community Development Block Grant of up to \$750,000. The state grant is based on the company creating 38 jobs during the first three years of the project.

Other partners that helped with this project include: N.C. Department of Commerce, N.C. Community Colleges, Catawba County, Catawba County Economic Development

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the [One North Carolina Fund](#) of up to \$300,000. 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, Durham Chamber of Commerce, Durham County and the City of Durham. [Read more.](#)



Mayor Bob Gibbs of the Town of Sawmills, speaking at the Listening Tour event in Hickory yesterday (Sept. 30).

Commerce Listening Tour Holds Second Session in Hickory

N.C. Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker and Tony Almeida, Governor McCrory's senior advisor for jobs and the economy, participated in a lively discussion and feedback session yesterday (Sept. 30) at the Hickory Metro Convention Center. The event was the second stop on the statewide Listening Tour currently underway to gather input for a new 10-year economic development plan for the State of North Carolina.

Aproximately 100 economic development, community, business and education leaders from the new North West Prosperity Zone attended the event. Participants in the panel discussion portion of the session included Dr. Pat Mitchell, N.C. Commerce Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development; Charlie Rice, Owner, Kellex Seating; Garrett Hinshaw, President, Catawba Valley Comm College (CVCC); and Dan St. Louis, Director, The Manufacturing Solutions Center, CVCC.

"N.C. manufacturers need trained workers as that sector regains some footing in the state," said Mr. St. Louis, sounding one early theme that has surfaced during the tour. "We've got to promote manufacturing to young folks," he said.

The next session of the Listening Tour will be held Monday, October 7 at the Hendricks Theater at East Carolina University in Greenville. The remaining tour events will be conducted through November across the state.

Corporation, City of Conover, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Peoples Bank and Matthews Construction.

[McCrory celebrates business expansion](#) (*The Charlotte Observer*, Sept. 20)

N.C., S.C. and Ga. Partner to Promote Region in U.K.

The N.C. Department of Commerce's Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development teamed with the tourism offices from South Carolina and Georgia, as well as the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority, on a media and sales mission to the United Kingdom last week. The group met with media and tour operators and conducted training for travel agents in London and southern England. The mission kicked off with a media event aboard the *Golden Hinde*, a replica of the historic English ship similar to those involved in the settlement of North Carolina.

The United Kingdom ranks No. 1 in terms of volume of overseas visitors to North Carolina with more than 87,000 visitors in 2012, up 7 percent from 2011. Spending by U.K. visitors increased 5 percent and is estimated at \$34.8 million (11 percent of all international spending in North Carolina).



EnSolve Biosystems CEO Jason Caplan with the PetroLimiter

N.C. Business Sending Product to Antarctica

This week, Raleigh-based [EnSolve Biosystems](#) is shipping one of its biofilters to Antarctica for use on a commercial fishing vessel. EnSolve Biosystems manufactures a complete pollution-prevention solution for bilge water used by cruise ships, oil tankers, ferries, tankers and commercial fishing vessels. EnSolve's core product, the PetroLimiter, is an oily water separator that handles phase-separated oil, emulsified oil and other contaminants that typically end up in the ship's bilge. The system is designed to pump water directly from the ship's bilge or oily water collection tank and reduce the total



((Left-right) Clint Bennett of Diamondback Tactical, Theresa Spera and Michelle Dalton of the N.C. Department of Commerce's International Trade Division, Scott Harry of Military Hardware, U.S. Ambassador to the U.K. Matthew Barzun, Sherry Lyons of XGO, Brian Kent of K3 Enterprises, Andrew Bair of Diamondback Tactical, and Derek Chen of the International Trade Division.

U.S. Ambassador to the U.K. Visits N.C. Delegation at DSEI in London

DSEI, Europe's leading defense and security event, was held in London Sept. 10-13. This year DSEI had more than 1,400 exhibitors from 54 countries with more than 90 official delegations hailing from 56 countries. U.S. Ambassador to the U.K. Matthew Barzun provided the opening remarks for the U.S. pavilion ribbon-cutting and subsequently visited the North Carolina booth twice to learn more about the state's defense exhibitors and how their capabilities could be utilized by U.K. forces.

For the first time ever, the N.C. Department of Commerce's International Trade Division exhibited at DSEI and was pleased to showcase a number of outstanding defense companies including Amidon Contracting Solutions (Wake Forest), Diamondback Tactical (Spindale), Military Hardware (Wilmington), K3 Enterprises (Fayetteville), XGO (West End), and K2 Solutions (Southern Pines).

Interestingly, each of these companies has worked with U.S. Special Operation Forces and as such represent North Carolina's elite capabilities in the defense arena. In addition to numerous trade leads and one-on-one appointments, this show provided these companies with the ability to interview new potential distributors, retailers and joint venture partners throughout Europe, while solidifying relationships with existing partners.

Special recognition is due to the U.S. Small Business Administration, which contributed to exhibitor costs through the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program.



petroleum hydrocarbons found in the water.

Unlike conventional oil water separators, the PetroLinator actually destroys oil and grease using naturally occurring bacteria. The PetroLinator is an automated bio-mechanical system which requires low maintenance and has been employed on a variety of ship platforms since 2000. Increasingly, ship owners around the world are switching to this technology that offers easy-to-use, green technology that comes with low operating costs. EnSolve Biosystems CEO Jason Caplan recently joined the N.C. Department of Commerce's International Trade Division in Halifax, Nova Scotia to promote the company's products at BioMarine 2013.

EnSolve Biosystems is a great example of how North Carolina companies are helping keep the oceans clean.



WoodFuels' wood pellets (photo courtesy of WoodFuels)

State Ports Board Approves Wood Pellet Agreement for Port of Morehead City

The N.C. State Ports Authority Board of Directors approved a deal on Sept. 26 that expands the ports' profile in the highly competitive wood pellet industry.

The agreement between the ports and WoodFuels could allow for construction of a wood pellet export facility at the Port of Morehead City. According to terms of the agreement, WoodFuels would finance and build a \$25 million export facility at the port to receive, store and load wood pellets for export to Europe, where they would be used as a renewable energy source.

Under the 20-year agreement, the facility would receive its first pellets for shipment in late 2014. After the initial operational year, revenue will range between \$1.2 million and \$2 million annually. On average, this deal

(Left-right) The N.C. Department of Commerce's Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development's Andre Nabors, CRVA's Tom Murray and Greater Charlotte Hospitality & Tourism Alliance's Mohammad Jenatani at the ground breaking of Charlotte Premium Outlets

Charlotte Premium Outlets Breaks Ground

Developers and local leaders broke ground on Sept. 20 for the new Charlotte Premium Outlets. The upscale center will boast 90 stores on an 80-acre lot and is expected to create more than 800 full- and part-time jobs. The project is a 50-50 joint venture between Greensboro-based Tanger Outlets and Simon Property Group. The first phase of the planned 400,000-square-foot center will open in summer 2014.

"I think it will bring more activity to the area and bring an economic base to the area. As we talked before, it will bring jobs and sales tax revenue, which are all very important to the area," said Tom Murray with the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority. He said thanks to its proximity to Interstate 485, the outlet mall will also mean more visitors from outside the Charlotte area. "Shopping is a huge reason why folks come to our community from outside," Murray said.

In 2012, visitors to and within North Carolina spent \$1.9 billion in retail across the state. This equates to nearly 10 percent of all visitor spending in the state. Shopping consistently has ranked (for the last 10 years) as one of the top three visitor activities participated in while in the state. In 2012, nearly 21 percent of visitors reported they shopped while in North Carolina.



Research Campus Latest Ready-to-Go Labs Filling Up

The N.C. Research Campus in Kannapolis has two new ready-to-go laboratory spaces entering construction that are slated to open in the first quarter of 2014 on the third floor of the David H. Murdock Core Laboratory building.

The first ready-to-go laboratory space officially opens this fall with tenants that include a start-up biotech company developing a diagnostic product related to diabetes, General Mills and Carolinas Medical Center. The ready-to-go laboratories are each 1,500 square feet and include administrative areas, bench tops, fume hoods, sinks and storage. The demand is so high for laboratory space like this that the two new units are already 80 percent committed.

could result in \$840,000 annually in ports operating revenue that would be used to reinvest into the Port of Morehead City. It is also expected to support at least 150 direct and indirect jobs between the port and other North Carolina locations.

"This agreement is another example of our efforts to enhance our ports and ensure that North Carolina has the infrastructure in place to support growing industries that are critical to our state's continued economic success," said N.C. Department of Transportation Secretary Tony Tata. "This is the third multi-million dollar deal the ports have closed in the last eight months. I want to thank the team that is working so hard to bring jobs to eastern North Carolina."

According to forest-industry experts at N.C. State University, U.S. production of wood pellets is expected to increase from the 3 million tons just four short years ago, to nearly 10 million tons by 2015. With its vast amount of renewable and sustainable wood fiber sources, North Carolina is an attractive location for wood biomass plants. Earlier this year, the Authority completed a deal with Enviva Holdings to construct and operate a similar facility at the Port of Wilmington. That facility is scheduled to open in early 2015.

The deal will be presented to the Council of State for final approval at its October meeting. [Read more.](#)

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

Jan. 1 - Oct. 1, 2013

New projects assigned:	282
Projects announced:	98
Jobs announced:	13,332
Capital investment announced:	\$1.4B
Industry visits by existing industry staff:	893
Calls to Business Link N.C.:	15,216

"We have so many scientists and companies that are interested in the NCRC," said NCRC Vice President of Business Development Clyde Higgs. "Our ready-to-go labs give them a choice of space that is flexible and helps them manage costs and gives them access to all of the scientific collaborators on campus." [Read more.](#)

[N.C. Research Campus adding spec lab space \(Charlotte Business Journal, Sept. 24\)](#)

N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [Sharon Decker to keynote Entrepreneur Summit in Belmont](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Sept. 27)
- [Garner set to aggressively market brownfield-approved ConAgra site](#) (*Garner-Cleveland Record*, Sept. 27)
- [Gateway University Research Park adds startup space](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, Sept. 26)
- [LexisNexis picks Centennial Campus for expansion](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Sept. 26)
- [Google selects Durham as part of Tech Hub Network](#) (*WRAL Tech Wire*, Sept. 26)
- [McCrory tours Spirit, calls GTP 'a priority'](#) (*Kinston Free Press*, Sept. 26)
- [Piedmont Triad Partnership awarded \\$200K for aviation initiative](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, Sept. 25)
- [North Carolina ranks No. 4 on Forbes' Best States for Business list](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Sept. 25)
- [Pepsi Bottling Ventures expansion in Winston-Salem integral to new beverage lines](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, Sept. 25)
- [MSC Industrial Supply tells story of an improbable deadline met for 400-job project in Davidson](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Sept. 24)
- [With new waves of investment, Wilmington's innovation economy is on the rise](#) (*WRAL Tech Wire*, Sept. 24)
- [Chuy's hiring 175 for new North Hills location](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*, Sept. 24)
- [Natty Greene's on tap for regional expansion: Foothills growth continues](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, Sept. 24)
- [Sharp-Gallaher Racing to spend \\$3.1 million to move shop to Mooresville from Denver](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal*, Sept. 23)
- [Local officials seek applicants for Golden LEAF grants](#) (*Rocky Mount Telegram*, Sept. 23)
- [Sun Drop plans to refresh its corner of Gastonia](#) (*Gaston Gazette*, Sept. 23)
- [Gov. McCrory likes first steps toward reorganizing N.C. economic development](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - Sept. 23)
- [Advanced Machining expands to new facility, increases workforce](#) (*Salisbury Post*, Sept. 22)

(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

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

© 2013 North Carolina Department of Commerce | SYNC™ is a trademark of the N.C. Department of Commerce.
