

# sync<sup>TM</sup>

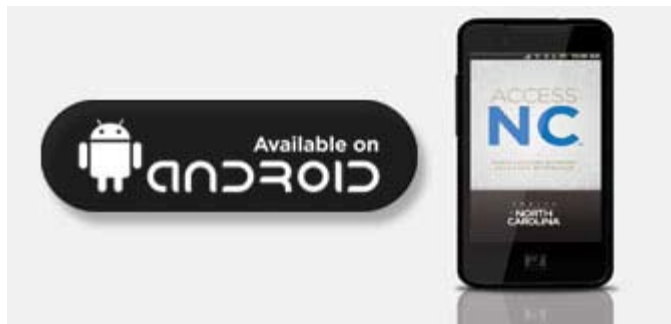
Weekly highlights from the  
North Carolina Department of Commerce



## Perdue announces Career & College Promise

Governor Bev Perdue on Nov. 10 launched Career & College Promise, her program that will guarantee eligible high school age students a clear, focused and affordable path to a successful future.

"Career & College Promise will prepare eligible high school students for life after high school that means college credit for some, job training for others," Perdue said. "Regardless of whether a student plans to go to college or get a job, Career & College Promise provides focused preparation, tuition-free to the student." [Read more.](#)



## AccessNC mobile app now available for Android devices

The North Carolina Dept. of Commerce's innovative new

## Smithfield Foods to bring 330 jobs to Kinston

Governor Bev Perdue on Nov. 10 announced that Smithfield Packing Company, a subsidiary of Smithfield Foods Inc., a \$12 billion global food company and the world's largest pork processor, will expand its facility in Lenoir County. The company plans to create 330 new jobs and invest \$85.5 million during the next three years in Kinston. The project was made possible in part by a \$700,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. As part of the expansion in Kinston, the company will add a new product line of packaged meats. Smithfield Foods currently has more than 12,400 employees across North Carolina.

"Creating jobs is my top priority," Perdue said. "North Carolina is an ideal location for global manufacturers to expand. Our skilled workforce, job training programs, commitment to success of agribusinesses and our excellent business climate are drawing more and more companies here."

Smithfield Packing Company, which operates the existing Kinston facility, was founded in 1936. Primary lines of business include fresh pork, smoked meats, bacon, cooked hams, and hot dogs for retail, foodservice and deli channels. The company exports products to approximately 30 countries. In addition to the Smithfield brand, its Gwaltney, Esskay and Cumberland Gap products are among the leaders in their respective markets. [Read more.](#)



(Left-right) N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll and Dr. Rusty Stephens, co-leader of the N.C. Community College

system to access the state's buildings and sites database is now available for mobile devices that utilize the Android operating system.

The AccessNC mobile app, available for both Apple and Android platforms, allows you to search available properties from all across the state. The app enables you to build personalized lists of properties for quick reference later, including the ability to create personal notes for each property. Using the mobile device's location tracking abilities, it's also easy to review maps for each property and to generate driving directions to those properties from your present location.

Download the app today from the [Android Market](#). A version of the mobile app for Blackberry Touch devices will be available in the near future.

With the release of the Android version of the application, AccessNC is now available on the predominant mobile platforms as well as its original home on the World Wide Web. AccessNC, previously known as the Economic Development Intelligence System (EDIS), is the state's online resource for business decision makers offering access to the labor, demographic, economic and property information they need when considering North Carolina business locations.

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## Medicago holds ribbon-cutting ceremony for RTP facility

Medicago U.S.A. Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Medicago Inc., a biotechnology company focused on developing highly effective and affordable vaccines based on proprietary manufacturing technologies and Virus-Like Particles, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 14 for its U.S. plant-based vaccine facility in Research Triangle Park. Governor Bev Perdue, U.S. Senator Richard Burr and U.S. Representative David Price attended the ceremony. The company initially announced on Sept. 13 that it had begun operations at this 97,000-square-foot vaccine facility. [Learn more](#).

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## Steel processor to add 23 new jobs in Guilford County

Governor Bev Perdue on Nov. 14 announced that Coilplus Inc., a flat rolled steel processor in Guilford County, plans to create 23 new jobs and invest \$12.7 million during the next three years in Greensboro as part of an expansion in North Carolina. The project was made possible in part by a \$50,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Jan Critz](#) was the developer on this project.

"Creating jobs is my top priority, both attracting new companies to North Carolina and helping existing ones grow and thrive," Perdue said. "North Carolina remains an ideal location for global manufacturers to expand. Our skilled workforce, job training programs and excellent business climate are known worldwide."

Coilplus started in 1985 in Alabama and has grown to nine plants throughout the United States and two locations in Mexico. Coilplus is part of the global network of Metal One, owned by Mitsubishi and Sojitz Corporations. Coilplus currently has 41 employees at its facility in Greensboro. As part of the expansion in Guilford County, the company will add new state-of-the-art equipment and will double the square footage of the existing plant. [Read more](#).

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### System's "Code Green" Initiative

## N.C. Community College System launches 'Code Green' initiative

The N.C. Community College System launched its "Code Green" initiative Nov. 14 during the N.C. Greenforce Conference at Davidson County Community College in Thomasville. N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll gave one of the keynote addresses and held a town hall Q&A session with representatives from community colleges from across the state. The initiative is a partnership between [The Greenforce Initiative](#) and the Code Green Initiative of the N.C. Community College Presidents' Association



*Rick Powell, President of PEMMCO Manufacturing with [Melissa Smith](#) from the N.C. Department of Commerce's Business & Industry Division*

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## PEMMCO Manufacturing celebrates grand opening of new facility

PEMMCO Manufacturing Inc. held the grand opening of its new 50,000 square-foot manufacturing facility Nov. 14 in Asheboro. More than 100 local officials, customers, employees, and vendors toured the facility following remarks by President Rick Powell and state and local government officials

PEMMCO is a precision machining operation specializing in the automotive, transportation and industrial equipment industries. The company invested more than \$3 million to construct and equip the new facility and create 28 new jobs. Total employment is 55, and the new facility site has been pre-graded to accommodate future growth.

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## Dynamic Airways locates commercial jet charter service at PTI

Dynamic Airways has located a commercial jet charter service operation at Piedmont Triad

## Flooring distributor to expand in Mocksville

National Flooring Distributors of Louisville, Ky. will open a 31,500 square-foot manufacturing operation on Industrial Boulevard in Mocksville. Production at the plant will begin ramping up before 2011 year end and dozens of new jobs will be created before the plant reaches production capacity of 20,000 square-feet per 8-hour shift. Employment growth at the plant should continue through at least 2012. [Read more.](#)



## State ports show revenue growth

A rising tide of cargo has lifted all ports in North Carolina, according to an announcement Nov. 10 by the N.C. State Ports Authority. The agency said that all of its port facilities combined logged a 7 percent revenue increase for the first quarter of FY 2011-12, which began July 1, over the same period last year.

The Port of Wilmington showed a cargo growth rate of 11 percent in general terminal activities and a 2.5 percent increase in container volumes. Increases in grain and woodchip shipping were primary factors in Wilmington's 23 percent growth in bulk commodities. Break bulk cargo – cargo that is shipped in individual containers rather than in bulk – showed a slight decline over last year.

"The authority's profitability during particularly difficult economic times is due to our vigorous pursuit of new business opportunities and the commitment of [N.C. Ports'](#) employees and partners," said N.C. State Ports Authority CEO Tom Eagar. "We continue to read the world's economic market and adjust plans accordingly. In the meantime, we are working closely with our current customers to ensure their needs are consistently met."

Eagar said the authority expects second quarter results to continue the upward trend in volumes and revenues.

[State ports, including Wilmington's, show revenue growth](#) (*Greater Wilmington Business Journal* - Wilmington, Nov. 10)

International Airport in Greensboro. The company, a leading provider of innovative aviation solutions to government and commercial organizations worldwide, operates a fleet of Boeing 767s and will eventually employ 50 in North Carolina. Certified and approved by both the Federal Aviation Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation as a 121 certificated air carrier, Dynamic Airways offers lease, full charter and corporate shuttle programs for private and government organizations worldwide. Dynamic Airways is a subsidiary of Dynamic Aviation, a leading aviation solutions company based in Bridgewater, Va. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Melissa Smith](#) was the developer for this project.

## Manufacturing Makes It Real Network to host two events

The Manufacturing Makes It Real Network, sponsored by N.C. State University's Industrial Extension Service, will host two upcoming events: Nov. 16 in Lake Waccamaw and Dec. 13 in Elizabeth City. The group works to promote a positive image of manufacturing in North Carolina. [Learn 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 - Nov. 15, 2011

New projects assigned:	356
Projects announced:	143
Jobs announced:	13,287
Capital investment announced:	\$2.671B
Industry visits by existing industry staff:	1,310
Calls to Business Link N.C.:	15,660

## N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [New LED street lights in La Grange save town \\$25,000 in six months](#) (*Kinston Free Press*, Nov. 11)



## AdvantageWest holds economic summit

About 300 entrepreneurs, investors, economic developers, elected officials and others were expected to attend the third annual AdvantageWest Economic Summit Nov. 14 in Asheville. A panel discussion featured N.C. Senator Tom Apodaca, R-Hendersonville, chairman of the N.C. Senate Rules Committee; N.C. Senator Martin Nesbitt, D-Asheville, the Senate minority leader; John Bardo, former chancellor of Western Carolina University; and Larry Blythe, vice-chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Newspaper columnist and UNC-TV host D.G. Martin was moderator. [Learn more.](#)

[AdvantageWest Economic Summit tackles public-private efforts in Asheville area](#) (*The Citizen-Times* - Asheville, Nov. 12)

## Business conference to focus on opportunities in southeast Asia

A business conference focused on companies that want to grow export sales to southeast Asia will be held Nov. 16 in downtown Winston-Salem. Speakers will include Jean Davis, International Trade Division director at the N.C. Department of Commerce.

[Business conference will focus on opportunities in southeast Asia](#) (*The Winston-Salem Journal*, Nov. 13)

- [N.C. landowners, lawmakers divided over fracking](#) (WRAL - Raleigh, Nov. 11)
- [Troops and hoops for Obama, on a Navy warship](#) (*The News & Observer* - Raleigh, Nov. 11)

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