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Weekly highlights from the
North Carolina Department of Commerce

Facebook to build data center in Rutherford County



(Left-right) N.C. Dept. of Commerce Sec. Keith Crisco, Facebook Director of Site Operations Tom Furlong, Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton and Chairman of Rutherford County Economic Development Commission Keven McCammon

Gov. Bev Perdue announced Nov. 11 that Facebook, the world's leading social networking service connecting more than 500 million people, will locate a multi-million dollar data center near Forest City in Rutherford County. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Margie Bukowski was the developer on this project.

The facility is expected to create more than 250 construction and mechanical jobs during its 18-month building phase. When construction is completed, the data center will employ around 35-45 full-time and contract workers. Facebook is expected to invest about \$450 million dollars in the new data center. Additional construction phases may be possible in the future, depending on business needs.

"We are proud that Facebook chose to make North Carolina a 'friend.' The feeling is certainly mutual," said Perdue. "You can't pick up a newspaper, read a magazine or flip on the television without hearing more great news about our state. The investment and jobs at the data center will be a boon to that region of the state, and will help confirm North Carolina's distinction as a global business destination."

Perdue said the state has been working with Facebook's representatives for about a year to help bring together the



Perdue announces 180 jobs with SPX

Gov. Bev Perdue announced Nov. 15 that SPX Corporation, a Fortune 500 multi-industry manufacturing leader, has initiated plans to build a new global headquarters in Mecklenburg County. The company's current lease expires in 2012. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Uconda Dunn was the developer on this project.

The company plans to create 180 jobs in Charlotte over the next five years and invest \$70 million toward the project, which was made possible in part by state grants from the Job Development Investment Grant program and One North Carolina Fund. This project is expected to begin in 2012.

"Congratulations to SPX on this terrific step forward, both for the company and our continuing efforts to create jobs in North Carolina, said Perdue. "This expansion of a Fortune 500 company is further proof that our top-ranked business climate is bringing new companies to North Carolina and helping old friends grow and thrive." [Read more.](#)

[SPX to invest \\$70M in Charlotte HQ](#) (Charlotte Business Journal, Nov. 15)

Wipro selects Cleveland County for state-of-the-art data center

Gov. Bev Perdue on Nov. 15 announced that Infocrossing, a Wipro Company (NYSE: WIT) and leading provider of IT infrastructure management solutions, will open a state-of-the-art data center in Cleveland County. As

land, utilities and incentives to make the project a success. North Carolina has become a destination for data center projects including previous announcements by Apple, Google and IBM.

"After a rigorous review of sites across the East Coast, we are pleased to locate our new data center in Rutherford County. The team we will hire here will help us provide faster, more reliable and more robust service to people around the world who rely on Facebook to connect and share," said Tom Furlong, director of site operations for Facebook. "We are very grateful to the officials in Rutherford County and the State of North Carolina whose time, effort and commitment were instrumental in making this happen." [Read more.](#) [See more photos.](#)

[Facebook data center heads to N.C.](#) (The Charlotte Observer, Nov. 12)



(Left-right) AdvantageWest Chair Tommy Jenkins, N.C. Dept. of Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll and AdvantageWest CEO Scott Hamilton

AdvantageWest Economic Summit includes state leaders

On Nov. 15 [AdvantageWest](#) held an economic summit in Asheville. Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton kicked off the summit. D.G. Martin of UNC-TV moderated a panel consisting of State Treasurer Janet Cowell, Institute of Emerging Issues Director Anita Brown-Graham and retired JP Morgan Chase executive Austin Adams. The summit concluded with the N.C. Dept. of Commerce recognizing AdvantageWest and its economic development partners for its pioneering work with fiber networks in western North Carolina and early marketing of the region to major technology companies like Google, Apple and Facebook, all of whom have built or will build data centers in the area.

Perdue vows to set government straight

Regulatory Review is Governor Bev Perdue's newest initiative aimed at setting government straight. It is a new process that asks you – citizens, community groups, businesses, state employees, local governments or schools – to tell us what rules and regulations in state government don't make sense.

The governor has instructed all of her cabinet agencies to stop creating new rules unless they are absolutely necessary and

part of the project, the company plans to invest \$75 million in the new state-of-the-art facility and create 17 direct technology jobs over the next four years, as well as create other opportunities for local companies expected to be hired to support the operation of the data center. The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Margie Bukowski was the developer on this project.

"Google, Apple, Facebook and now Wipro. North Carolina continues to be a prime location for growing and expanding global technology companies," said Perdue. "Technology leaders recognize that we have a talented workforce, comprehensive infrastructure and a low cost of doing business - a winning formula that has led them to expand operations and make investments to North Carolina." [Learn more.](#)

[Wipro invests \\$75M in Cleveland County data center](#) (Charlotte Business Journal, Nov. 15)



Obama nominates Smith to regulate Fannie, Freddie

President Barack Obama said Nov. 12 he will nominate N.C. Banking Commissioner Joseph A. Smith Jr. to become chief regulator for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac as the administration prepares to overhaul the mortgage firms. Obama announced his intention to name Smith as director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency in an e-mail release. If confirmed by the Senate, the 61-year-old regulator will replace FHFA Acting Director Edward J. DeMarco at the helm of an agency that has overseen Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac since they were seized by the federal government in 2008.

[Obama to name North Carolina regulator Fannie, Freddie overseer](#) (Bloomberg, Nov. 12)

justifiable, until a thorough review can be completed. Every suggestion you send in will be reviewed by the Office of State Budget and Management, and ideas that work will be sent to the agencies to act on. If the Governor can make the change herself, she will; if she needs legislative approval, she will ask the General Assembly to make the change next year. [Read more.](#)



(Left-right) SVE Portable Road Systems President Art Price, PSI-Polymer Systems President Glenn Woodcock, PSI-Polymer Systems Vice President Carla Woodcock, Wilmington Machinery President Russ LaBelle, Manfred Wege of the PSI-Polymer Systems' European Office, N.C. Dept. of Commerce Foreign Trade Assistant Carsten Lex

Commerce participates in European plastic/rubber products trade show

The N.C. Dept. of Commerce hosted a trade and investment booth Oct. 27-Nov. 3 as part of the USA Pavilion at the K Show in Dusseldorf, Germany. The K Show is the world's premier plastic and rubber products trade show. The industry suffered badly in 2009, but has sprung back strongly in 2010. This industrial recovery was on display as tens of thousands of participants visited the trade show. The industry used the time during the economic crisis wisely, investing in innovation and inventing new products for new markets. Plastic and rubber products are currently used in many industries, and are still entering into new uses in new markets. They are seen as a potential resource in energy efficiency, medical products, environmental protection, automotive, aerospace and many other sectors.

2011 Nanotech Commercialization Conference announced

The 2011 [N.C. Nanotech Commercialization Conference](#) will take place March 29-30 at Barnhardt Center at UNC-Charlotte. The third annual event will feature information on the latest advances in the field, discussions on financing, licensing and business development, and keynote addresses from national-level speakers. [Learn more.](#)

COIN to host nanobiotechnology executive roundtable in the Triad

The Center of Innovation for Nanobiotechnology on Nov. 3 announced its second Executive Roundtable event, which will be hosted at the Joint School of Nanoscience and

Workforce announces training grants

The N.C. Commission on Workforce Development recently announced grant awards totaling more than \$457,308 through the Incumbent Workforce Development Training Program. The funds will allow recipient firms to support educational and skills training for their workers. The employees of 25 companies throughout North Carolina will benefit from this round of training grants. A total of 59 proposals were submitted in September 2010 from 19 local area Workforce Development Boards. Of the 25 firms funded, 32 percent are located in North Carolina's most distressed counties and 64 percent are small companies with fewer than 100 employees. [Learn more](#) about the Incumbent Worker Program.

Kinston business wins Defense contract

Spatial Integrated Systems, Inc. of Kinston announced Oct. 26 that it has won a major proof of concept contract from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency in response to its recent solicitation for the Anti Submarine Warfare Continuous Trail Unmanned Vessel program. The award builds on SIS's successful development to date of an autonomous maritime navigation and control system in partnership with NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division.

Under the initial six month contract, SIS will demonstrate the technical feasibility of a beyond state of the art cognitive capability for tracking quiet diesel electric submarines for long periods of time under sparse remote supervisory control. The results of this demonstration will be used to generate preliminary performance specifications for the autonomy system of the ACTUV. [Read 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 contacts received by the Business Link North Carolina/Business ServiCenter.

Nanoengineering in Greensboro on Nov. 17. This event will offer executives and entrepreneurs of North Carolina-based nanobiotechnology companies and others involved in this exciting field an opportunity to discuss key business issues and build relationships.

COIN is a non-profit that promotes commercialization of nanobiotechnology in North Carolina and beyond. The opportunity represented by the myriad applications of nanobiotechnology in key life science and medical product sectors for the state is significant. COIN's programs and services are designed to help accelerate innovation management and new product development and commercialization. [Read more.](#)

Enrollment, course numbers up in '12 in 6' program

The N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Division of Workforce Development continues to track the progress of Gov. Bev Perdue's JobsNOW "12 in 6" initiative. The community colleges have been asked to provide monthly reports regarding the number of students enrolled, courses offered and the number of jobs created and maintained. The numbers through Oct. 31 show that 18,078 students are enrolled in the program (up from 17,058 as of Sept. 30), and 2,639 courses have been offered (up from 2,491 as of Sept. 30).

Jan. 1 - Nov. 15, 2010

New projects assigned:	385
Projects announced:	124
Jobs created:	14,223
Capital invested:	\$2.89B
Industry visits by existing industry staff:	1,302
Calls to the Business ServiCenter:	20,088

N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [Incentives: Economic officials say spending to lure business makes sense](#) (The Salisbury Post, Nov. 14)
- [NACCO Industries to add 400 jobs](#) (The News & Observer - Raleigh, Nov. 9)
- [Charlotte-area layoffs slow](#) (The Charlotte Observer, nov. 3)

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