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NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES
FROM N.C. COMMERCE



Joining Gov. Cooper earlier today at the announcement event in Wilmington, (L-R): George Brown, Chair, Pender County Commissioners; Gov. Cooper; Scott Satterfield, CEO, Wilmington Business Development; Jonathan Pressler, Senior Vice President, Polyhose; Fatema Shabbir, President, Polyhose; and Mohammed Millwalla, Vice President of Operations, Polyhose.

International Hose Manufacturer to Create 51 Jobs in Pender County

Earlier today at an event in Wilmington, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced that Polyhose Inc., an industrial hose manufacturer, will create 51 jobs in Pender County. The company will invest \$7.9 million to locate a warehouse and assembly plant along U.S.421 in Pender County.

"Pender County is ready to grow, and international companies like Polyhose know North Carolina's strong workforce is the right way to put their strategy to work," said **Governor Cooper**.

Headquartered in India, Polyhose manufactures specialized industrial hoses and tubings for large equipment companies such as Caterpillar, Boeing, Graco, and Wagner SprayTech. The global industrial conglomerate employs more than 1,800 employees for their operations in Europe, Middle East, Southeast Asia and North America. Located in Pender Commerce Park, the new location will be a 40,000 square-foot warehouse for hose assembly and distribution.

"Polyhose is thrilled to be making its first significant USA investment in Pender County, North Carolina," said **Jonathan Pressler, Senior Vice President of Polyhose Inc.** "As Polyhose searched for a home in the U.S., the state of North Carolina and Pender County did a great job of working with Polyhose to find a suitable location, while pointing out the many advantages of locating here. Polyhose looks forward to being an involved employer and positive contributor to the Pender County and North Carolina communities."



Governor Cooper (right) with Well's President and COO Dave Werry at the announcement ceremony in Chapel Hill November 19.

Gov. Cooper Announces 400 New Jobs in Chapel Hill for Healthcare Technology Operations Center

Well, a fast-growing healthcare technology company will locate a new operations center in Chapel Hill, creating 400 jobs, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced November 19. The company will invest \$3 million in Orange County.

"Healthcare and information technology are areas where North Carolina excels, because of our strong workforce and the continued pipeline of workers from universities and colleges all over the state," said **Governor Cooper**. "Companies like Well see our achievements as a strong reason to choose places like Chapel Hill to pursue their plans for success."

Well provides a consumer engagement platform that helps individuals navigate and improve their health. Well's concierge health team and digital experiences provide on-demand support to members for their health needs, while proactively surfacing personalized health insights. Well's new operations center will serve as the primary center for the company's clinical and health experts, and will also house software developers, data analysts, and corporate

"When international manufacturers want to expand, North Carolina is always a top choice," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "Combining the largest manufacturing workforce in the Southeastern United States with a prime East Coast location and great transportation infrastructure creates a winning strategy for global companies like Polyhose."

Although wages will vary depending on the position, the average for all new positions could reach up to \$38,216. The current average annual wage in Pender County is \$32,627.

A performance-based grant of \$75,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Polyhose's operation in Pender County. The One NC Fund provides financial assistance to local governments to help attract economic investment and to create jobs. Companies receive no money upfront and must meet job creation and capital investment targets to qualify for payment.

In addition to the [North Carolina Department of Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina](#), other key partners in the project were the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), the [North Carolina Ports Authority](#), [Wilmington Business Development](#), [North Carolina's Southeast](#), and [Pender County](#).



The Fresh Market to Expand Corporate Headquarters, Creating 53 Jobs in Downtown Greensboro

The Fresh Market, a fresh-focused specialty food retailer that was founded in Greensboro in 1982, will expand their headquarters operations in North Carolina, creating 53 new jobs, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced yesterday (November 25). The company plans to invest \$5.4 million in Greensboro.

"We're proud that The Fresh Market has chosen to expand its operations at home in Greensboro, where the company began as a single store and continues to grow," said **Governor Cooper**. "In this week of Thanksgiving, I'm grateful to all the hardworking North Carolinians who make up our workforce and help us attract great paying jobs like these."

The Fresh Market has been providing a fresh take on grocery shopping for more than 35 years. What started as a dream to bring back the old-world charm of the local market through the original store in Greensboro, has grown to include 159 locations

personnel.

"North Carolina has proven to be a fertile market to attract top talent across our range of requirements, from development to clinical to customer service," said **Gary Loveman, Founding Chairman and Chief Executive**. "Our leadership team has close ties to Chapel Hill and we are thrilled to make our home here."

"Innovative companies are attracted to North Carolina because our state offers the right ingredients for success," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "As a major hub for information technology and some of the leading research centers in medicine, the Research Triangle region offers the perfect place for Well's next phase of growth."

The North Carolina Department of Commerce led the state's support for the company during its site evaluation and decision-making process. Although wages will vary depending on position, the average salary for all the positions will reach \$63,020. The Orange County average wage is \$46,112.

Well's project won a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) that authorizes the potential reimbursement to the company of up to \$3,394,500 spread over 12 years. The project is estimated to grow the state's economy by \$609 million over that time. The company's JDIG agreement also calls for moving as much as \$1.1 million into the state's Industrial Development Fund - Utility Account.

Partnering with the [North Carolina Department of Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina](#) on this project were the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Orange County](#), the [Town of Chapel Hill](#), [Orange County Economic Development](#), and [Chapel Hill Economic Development](#).

2020 County Tier Rankings To Be Released Wednesday

Today, Commerce officials are making final preparations ahead of the publication of next year's County Distress Rankings, commonly known as the County Tiers. The rankings for 2020 are expected to be released tomorrow (Wednesday, November 27).

The North Carolina Department of Commerce annually ranks the state's 100 counties based on economic well-being and assigns each a Tier designation. This Tier system is incorporated into various state programs to encourage economic activity in the less prosperous areas of the state.

The 40 most distressed counties are designated as Tier 1, the next 40 as Tier 2

in 22 states. The company is still committed to providing an unparalleled shopping experience with the ambience of a friendly, local market. The company is consolidating its corporate headquarters operations from two separate buildings and expanding into one new, modern location in downtown Greensboro.

"Greensboro has been our home for the past 37 years, and we are thrilled to be able to make a long-term commitment to staying in this community and be able to build on our vision," said **Larry Appel, President and CEO of The Fresh Market**. "We are excited to be able to unite all of our headquarters team members in one building and provide them with as welcoming a place to work as it is for our guests to shop in our stores."

"The Fresh Market has grown from a small one-store operation in Greensboro to being known in over 20 states as the best destination for curated product offerings and remarkable, friendly service," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "Our favorable business climate and strong workforce continue to enable companies of all sizes to find success here."

The average annual wage of the new jobs announced today will be \$70,113. The average wage in Guilford County is currently \$47,955.

A performance-based grant of \$500,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate The Fresh Market's expansion in Guilford County.

Partnering with the [North Carolina Department of Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina](#) on this project were the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Guilford County](#), the [City of Greensboro](#), the [City of High Point](#), the [High Point Economic Development Corporation](#), and the [Greensboro Chamber of Commerce](#).

Happy
THANKSGIVING

N.C. Commerce will observe state holidays this week on Thursday and Friday, November 28-29.

All of us are thankful for the work you do every day to support economic development in your community and all across North Carolina.

From our Commerce family to yours, best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving!

and the 20 least distressed as Tier 3.

More information about the Tier system and the 2019 county rankings are available at nccommerce.com.

On Our Radar

- [\[New Video\] Guilford Workforce Development Board](#) (features new NCWorks logo)
- [Holiday open house at N.C. governor's western residence](#) (*The News Herald* - Morganton - November 26) • Event: Sunday, December 8 • 45 Patton Mountain Road, Asheville

N.C. in the News

- [Is NC 'ecosysteming'? RIoT evaluates efforts to coordinate entrepreneurship across the state](#) (*WRAL TechWire* - November 26)
- [AkzoNobel Breaks New Ground](#) (*Coatings World* - November 26)
- [As the Triangle's entrepreneurial ecosystem matures, more businesses are started](#) (*News & Observer* - November 22)
- [Washington Named Small Town of the Year \(by the N.C. Rural Center\)](#) (*Washington Daily News* - November 21)

About Us

SYNC is North Carolina Commerce's electronic newsletter for local government officials, private-sector allies, state policy makers, and other economic development leaders. We offer unfiltered details about new economic development projects and events, useful news about your peers, and opportunities to synchronize with statewide programs and tools in order to advance economic development in your community. [Send your story ideas to the editor.](#)



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