

sync[®] NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES FROM N.C. COMMERCE



At the North Carolina Executive Mansion earlier this afternoon, Amit Kalyani (left), Managing Director for Bharat Forge, Ltd. joins Governor Cooper at the podium.

Global Automotive Parts Manufacturer Selects Lee County for Major Aluminum Forging Facility

Bharat Forge America, Inc. will build an aluminum forging plant to manufacture automobile components in Lee County, creating 304 jobs, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced earlier this afternoon at the Executive Mansion (September 17). The company will invest \$127.3 million in Sanford.

The new facility in Sanford will be part of a larger manufacturing center that will bring as many as 460 jobs and \$170 million of investment to Lee County over a period of time.

"Global industrial manufacturer Bharat Forge is making its largest overseas investment in Sanford because our quality workers along with our other resources will help drive demand for their products," said **Governor Cooper**."

Bharat Forge and its subsidiary Bharat Forge Aluminum USA,



Register for the 2019 Southeast U.S./Japan Conference

Registrations are still being accepted for the upcoming 42nd Annual Joint Meeting between the Southeast U.S./Japan and Japan-U.S Southeast Associations. The business conference will be held at the Westin Savannah Harbor Hotel in Savannah, Georgia October 21-23, 2019.

North Carolinians interested in joining the state's delegation to the conference may contact David Rhoades, State Coordinator for the conference at (919) 814-4611 or [by email](#).

You may [download the SEUS/Japan 2019 registration form at this link](#).

[SEUS/Japan 2019 Agenda](#).



Registration Open for Upcoming Rural Conference

North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland will offer keynote remarks at an upcoming business conference focusing on rural North Carolina next month.

The statewide *Energizing Rural North Carolina* conference will be held October 8-9 in Sanford.

Inc. are part of the Kalyani Group of companies, headquartered in Pune, India. The Kalyani Group is a \$3 billion Indian conglomerate employing 10,000 people in its global workforce and engaged in a wide range of industries.

"We are delighted to make our biggest overseas investment in North America, in the state of North Carolina, which offers excellent advantages and a strong talent pool," said **Amit Kalyani, Deputy Managing Director, Bharat Forge Ltd.** "Importantly, this also brings us closer to our customers in North America. This investment will help us create a strong global manufacturing footprint as part of our aluminum strategy, spanning Europe, Asia and the United States."

"This project confirms North Carolina's strength as one of the top destinations for foreign investment in the United States," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland.** "Companies representing more than 40 countries have located operations here, thanks to the many business advantages offered by our state."

While salaries will vary by position, the average wage will be \$47,056. The current Lee County average wage is \$41,567.

Bharat Forge Aluminum USA's project was awarded a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) earlier today. Over the course of the 12-year terms of the grant, the project will add an estimated \$787.1 million to North Carolina's economy. The JDIG could yield the company up to \$3,543,300, spread over 12 years.

The JDIG agreement also calls for moving as much as \$393,700 into the state's Industrial Development Fund – Utility Account. The Utility Account helps rural communities finance necessary infrastructure upgrades to attract future business.

Bharat Forge America, Inc.'s site selection decision remains contingent on the final award of acceptable incentives from the local governments.

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](#), [N.C. Department of Transportation](#), the [N.C. Environmental Quality](#), the [Golden LEAF Foundation](#), [North Carolina State University](#), [Lee County](#), the [City of Sanford](#), and the [Sanford Area Growth Alliance](#).

Related News: [Indian Automotive Machining Company Will Locate New Facility in Lee County](#)



(L-R) Ronnie Locke, Chairman of the Halifax County Economic

The Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina is presenting the conference in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Commerce, N.C. Rural Center, the North Carolina Economic Development Association, the Golden LEAF Foundation, and the Institute for Emerging Issues at North Carolina State University.

Registration is open to those who want to join a diverse group of local economic developers and civic leaders attending from across the state. They are gathering at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center to explore how rural communities can retain, attract and develop workforce talent. Some of the topics addressed will include worker education, housing, and health.

[Read more and register](#)

North Carolina Workforce Development Boards receive national honors

The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) recently announced awards to recognize projects conducted by groups in North Carolina, including several innovative efforts by workforce development boards that are affiliated with regional councils of governments (COGs). Local workforce boards are key partners in the NCWorks system, along with the N.C. Department of Commerce and other agencies.

"Harnessing the power of local innovation is one of the core principles of Governor Cooper's NC Job Ready initiative to prepare North Carolinians for the jobs of today and tomorrow, and these workforce boards exemplify that sort of innovation," said N.C. Commerce Secretary Anthony Copeland.

NADO Impact Awards for innovative workforce-related projects included:

- Land of Sky Regional Council (Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania counties)
- Lumber River Council of Governments (Bladen, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson and Scotland counties)
- Mid-East Commission (Beaufort, Bertie, Hertford, Martin and Pitt counties) (2 projects)
- Piedmont Triad Regional Council (Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Montgomery, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin counties)
- Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments (Edgecombe, Halifax, Nash, Northampton and Wilson counties)

The NADO Impact Awards program honors

Development Commission; N.C. Representative Michael Wray; David Hore, Executive Vice President and President, Sensors, MTS Systems/PCB Piezotronics; N.C. Commerce Assistant Secretary Kenny Flowers; and Vernon J. Bryant, Chairman of the Halifax County Board of Commissioners.

120 New Jobs Coming to Halifax County as Manufacturer Expands

PCB Piezotronics of North Carolina, a designer and manufacturer of high-precision sensors used in a variety of test and measurement and industrial settings, will consolidate production operations currently located in China and California to its facility in Halifax County, creating 120 jobs, Governor Roy Cooper announced September 9. The company will invest nearly \$4.5 million in Halifax.

N.C. Commerce Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development Kenny Flowers led an announcement event held at the company's facility last week.

"Rural North Carolina is a great fit for companies to build out their operations," said **Governor Cooper**. "Our workers understand modern manufacturing, and along with their communities they are ready to grow with companies like PCB Piezotronics in Halifax County."

PCB Piezotronics, a wholly owned subsidiary of MTS Systems Corporation (NASDAQ: MTSC), designs and builds test and measurement and industrial sensors that measure vibration, shock, pressure and other dynamic forces. PCB recently acquired the Endevco division of Meggitt PLC, which designs and manufactures similar products to those that PCB makes. Endevco currently produces these products in Xaimen, China and Irvine, California. The company's new project expands its current facility in Halifax County in order to bring these production lines to North Carolina.

"One of the best business decisions that I have ever made was the decision to begin operations in Halifax, North Carolina in 2004 when we had to decide between expanding in our original home of New York State or expanding elsewhere" said **David T. Hore, President of PCB Piezotronics**. "I have great confidence that our current Halifax workforce of 215 hardworking and dedicated employees will lead this integration in the same exceptional manner as they perform, day in and day out for PCB."

Although wages will vary depending on position, the average salary for all the new positions will reach \$33,760 and PCB also provides world-class benefits, including 100% company paid premiums for health insurance. The Halifax County average wage is \$32,216.

PCB's project in North Carolina will be facilitated, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG). Over the course of the 10-year term of this grant, the project is estimated to grow the state's economy by nearly \$151 million. Using a formula that takes into account the new tax revenues generated by the new jobs, the JDIG agreement authorizes the potential reimbursement to the company of up to \$940,000 spread over 10 years.

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, Halifax County](#), and the [Halifax County Economic Development Commission](#).

members for their creative approaches to advancing regional community and economic development and improved quality of life. These projects have made significant impacts on their regions and demonstrate the diversity of services and program delivery provided by regional development organizations across the country.

On Our Radar

- [Golden LEAF Foundation names new president](#) (*Triangle Business Journal*) - September 12
- [Wake Tech jobs program would pay students to learn high-demand trades](#) (*WRAL*) - September 10
- [Sponsored Feature: Fayetteville puts on a fresh face](#) (*Business North Carolina*)
- [\[Grant Opportunity for Educators\]: Promoting Innovation in Science and Mathematics](#) (*Burroughs Wellcome Fund*)

N.C. in the News

- [Amazon's new Charlotte robotics facility will hire hundreds and speed up local deliveries](#) (*Charlotte Agenda* - September 15)
- [State, Orange County Make Medline Manufacturing Facility Official](#) (*Chapelboro.com* - Chapel Hill - September 13)
- [Golden LEAF Foundation names Appalachian Regional Commission exec as new president](#) (*WRAL TechWire* - September 12)

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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