

# sync<sup>®</sup> NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

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## FROM N.C. COMMERCE



## Medical Device Company to Create 40 Jobs in Caldwell County

Adhezion Biomedical, a research and manufacturing company offering medical adhesive products, will create 40 jobs over the next four years as it expands its facility in Caldwell County. The company plans to invest \$3.5 million in Hudson over this period of time. **Governor Roy Cooper** made the announcement May 26.

"Biotech is thriving here in North Carolina, contributing \$86 billion to our economy each year," **Governor Cooper** said. "Adhezion's decision to expand in Caldwell County underscores that North Carolina is a world leader in biomanufacturing."

Adhezion Biomedical, LLC is a privately-held medical device company focused on the development, manufacturing and commercialization of cyanoacrylate-based surgical, wound management and infection prevention technologies. Founded in 2001, the company maintains its corporate headquarters in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania.

"More than 60,000 North Carolinians work directly in the biotechnology industry," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "From our ongoing industry training programs to the state's overall quality of life, North Carolina provides unmatched support for the biotech workforce." N.C. Commerce and the Economic Development Partnership of N.C. were instrumental in supporting the company's investment decision.

The new positions in Caldwell County will provide an annual payroll impact of more than \$1.3 million to the local economy.

"We very much appreciate the support of the state's Department of Commerce in making this grant available to our company," said **Pete Molinaro, Adhezion's CEO and Chairman**. "We expect to use these funds to allow us to grow our presence in Hudson by expanding our facility, its processes, capacity and workforce, as well as offering opportunities to our current employees. Furthermore, we are delighted to be able to commit to making Hudson our home for the company's research & development, manufacturing and distribution activities."



## Automotive supplier will create 37 jobs in Taylorsville

Borealis Compounds, Inc., a supplier of plastic materials to the automotive industry, will locate a new production facility in Alexander County, **Governor Roy Cooper** announced May 23. The company plans to initially invest \$15 million in the new plant and create 37 jobs in Taylorsville.

"North Carolina is known for its vibrant network of automotive industry suppliers, and Borealis is a welcome addition," **Governor Cooper** said. "These are exactly the kind of good-paying, advanced manufacturing jobs that communities like Taylorsville need, and our skilled workers are ready to get to work."

Borealis AG, with global headquarters in Vienna, Austria, serves a variety of industries, including automotive, energy, and consumer products sectors. The company's applications in the automotive industry include bumpers, body panels, trims, dashboards and other key components. Borealis Compound's new North Carolina facility will serve automotive industry customers in North America.

"North Carolina offers an ideal east coast location," said **North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland**. "Combined with the state's superior transportation network, companies can easily reach their markets across North America."

While compensation will vary by position, average salaries for the new jobs will be \$40,125, above the current average annual wage in Alexander County of \$30,631.

"This investment shows our sustained commitment to the automotive industry in North America. North Carolina was a logical choice for us. Its location allows us to service customers across the North American region and we value the supportive, business-friendly environment of the State and of Alexander County," says **Maria Ciliberti, Borealis Vice President Marketing and New Business Development**. "We're

A performance-based grant of \$100,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Adhezion's expansion in Caldwell County. The OneNC 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. All OneNC grants require a matching grant from local governments and any award is contingent upon that condition being met.

In addition to [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) other key partners in the project include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Blue Ridge Energy](#), [Caldwell County](#), and the [Caldwell County Economic Development Commission](#).

[Read more.](#)



*(Left-right) N.C. Commerce Chief of Staff George Sherrill with David Newman, the Republic of Botswana's Ambassador to the U.S. and N.C. Commerce Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development Napoleon Wallace*

## Botswana Ambassador Meets with N.C. Commerce Officials

David Newman, the Republic of Botswana's Ambassador to the United States led a delegation from his country to meet with N.C. Department of Commerce representatives in Raleigh May 23. The group discussed North Carolina's approach to economic development, especially in rural communities.

Botswana, a representative democracy located in Southern Africa, is a former British protectorate that gained its independence in 1966.

The delegation was particularly interested in discussion of infrastructure programs, as water is limited in areas throughout Botswana. Members also expressed interest in learning about North Carolina's sweet potato crop and the recent expansion of sweet potato processing in rural areas.

The Botswana delegation met with N.C. Commerce Chief of Staff George Sherrill, Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development Napoleon Wallace and analyst Will Best.

convinced that this expansion will strengthen our position as a local supplier to automotive OEMs and their Tier suppliers in North America and that it will enable us to deliver our global material innovations locally. We believe it is important to step up our capacity, capabilities and support infrastructure, to ensure that our customers in North America receive the same high level of service as in the other regions where we operate."

A performance-based grant of \$100,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Borealis' move to Alexander County.

In addition to [North Carolina Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina](#), other key partners in the project include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [N.C. Department of Revenue](#), the [N.C. Department of Transportation](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [North Carolina Railroad](#), the [Alexander Railroad Company](#), [Alexander County](#), and the [Alexander County Economic Development Corporation](#).

[Read more.](#)



*Secretary Copeland (left) with Brian Stiehler, Golf Course Superintendent for the Highlands Country Club and board member and N.C. Legislative Chair for the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association.*

## May 24 Named Golf Day to Honor Industry's Contribution to North Carolina

Governor Roy Cooper proclaimed May 24, 2017 as Golf Day in North Carolina, recognizing the golf industry for its significant contributions to the state.

**N.C. Secretary of Commerce Tony Copeland** and **Senior Advisor to the Governor Ken Eudy** met with golf industry representatives last week to present the proclamation.

Golf has a total economic impact of \$4.2 billion in North Carolina, with \$2.3 billion in direct spending. The industry provides jobs



Chris Bail, an associate professor at Duke and an instructor for the Data Matters Short Course Series.

## Data Course Offered in August

It's a data rich world, and a new educational and professional development opportunity is on the horizon for SYNC readers interested in thriving in the current environment.

The five-day Data Matters Short Course series offers the knowledge you need to succeed. Now in its fourth year, Data Matters is sponsored by the National Consortium for Data Science (NCDS), the Data Science Initiative at N.C. State University, the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science at UNC Chapel Hill, and RENCI (Renaissance Computing Institute).

The course work is particularly designed for:

- Researchers who manage, share, analyze and archive large or complicated data sets
- Business professionals struggling to stay afloat in the data deluge
- Data analysts looking to sharpen their skills
- Students interested in the hot field of data science

This year's Data Matters will be held August 7-11 at the James B. Hunt Jr. Library on N.C. State's Centennial Campus.

Data Matters will feature courses on topics such as using the R software environment, machine learning, and geospatial analytics. Participants can register for up to three classes, including two-day courses held on Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday and one-day courses held on Wednesday. Course instructors include field experts from UNC Greensboro, N.C. State, UNC-Chapel Hill, The Odum Institute, Arizona State University, RENCI and Duke University. Faculty, students, and staff with academic institutions can register for the entire week for the reduced price of \$275. Participants who work for NCDS member organizations also are eligible for discounts.

[To register](#) or review detailed course descriptions, course schedules, instructor bios, and logistical information, [visit the Data Matters website](#).

for nearly 53,000 people and generates total wage income of \$1.3 billion.

In the coming years, the state will attract the international spotlight with three major tournaments: the 2017 PGA Championship at Charlotte's Quail Hollow Golf Club Aug. 7-13, the 2021 President's Cup also at Quail Hollow and the 2024 U.S. Open Championship at the famed Pinehurst No. 2 course.

## N.C. in the News

- [Tight industrial market, significant construction pipeline key themes in Charlotte](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - May 30)
- [NC budget writers target startups, Biotech Center for cuts](#) (*WRAL TechWire* - May 26)
- [Charlotte lands NBA All-Star Game \(again\)](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - May 24)
- [Honda Aircraft begins sales of \\$4.85M jet in southeast Asia](#) (*Triad Business Journal* - May 22)
- [Mayors gather in Greenville, examine rural-urban divisions](#) (*Daily Reflector* - Greenville - May 19)
- [Mayors gather in Greenville, examine rural-urban divisions](#) (*WWAY-TV* - Wilmington - May 18)
- [Regional economic group eyed](#) (*Daily Advance* - Elizabeth City - May 16)

### 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](#).

**(919) 814-4600**

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**Building Location:**  
301 North Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-1058

**Mailing Address:**  
4301 Mail Service Center

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