



Global Aviation Services Company to Bring 127 New Jobs to High Point

Governor Pat McCrory, N.C. Commerce Secretary John E. Skvarla, III and the Economic Development Partnership of N.C. announced August 7 that HAECO Americas' aircraft interiors unit HAECO Cabin Solutions will expand in Guilford County and plans to create 127 new jobs over the next five years. The company plans to invest \$11.3 million in the city of High Point over the same period.

"Nothing compares to the talent, training and specialized resources aviation and aerospace companies find in North Carolina," said Governor McCrory. "This world-class company selected our state because we offer the right ingredients for their business to achieve more."

HAECO Cabin Solutions, formerly known as TIMCO Aerosystems, LLC, provides interior design engineering, certification and project integration for aircraft fleets and manufactures a variety of components for aircraft interiors, including its line of Vector passenger seats and FeatherWeight galleys and lavatories. More than 1,700 people are employed by HAECO Americas in North Carolina, with headquarters in Greensboro.

"This company's management team has long-term experience doing business in our state," said Secretary Skvarla. "This decision is a wonderful vote of confidence in North Carolina and the growing aerospace industry located here."

Kevin Carter, Chief Executive Officer for HAECO Americas, said "We are experiencing significant growth in our aircraft interiors business, and the time is right for us to move ahead with this expansion." He added, "The decision to expand in North Carolina was easy for us with its magnificent pool of employee talent and strong state and local partnerships."

The project is being made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the One North Carolina Fund of up to



Visitor Spending Rises in 97 North Carolina Counties in 2014

Visitors to North Carolina were once again a major driver of economic activity in the state in 2014, driving spending increases in 97 of the state's 100 counties. Data from *Visit North Carolina* showed that visitor spending neared \$5 billion in Mecklenburg County, topped \$2 billion in Wake and topped \$1 billion in Guilford and Dare counties.

Rounding out the top ten counties for visitor spending in the state were Buncombe (\$963 million), Forsyth (\$785 million), Durham (\$700 million), New Hanover (\$508 million), Brunswick (\$496 million) and Cumberland (\$490 million) counties.

Domestic visitors spent a record \$21.3 billion statewide in 2014, an increase of 5.5 percent from the previous year. State tax receipts as a result of visitor spending topped \$1 billion in 2014, and local tax revenues directly resulting from visitor spending totaled more than \$636 million. Visitor expenditures directly supported 204,909 jobs and generated more than \$4.9 billion in payroll income across North Carolina.

"Tourism is a major force in North Carolina's economic development, said Governor Pat McCrory. "The industry is fueling a continued growth in jobs and contributing substantial sums to the state budget and local economies in every corner of our great state."

N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla added, "Nothing compares with our state's diverse natural beauty and rewarding experiences at every turn. We can take pride in North Carolina's position as the sixth most-visited state in the nation with nearly 50 million overnight visitors in 2014."

\$294,000. The One NC Fund provides financial assistance, through local governments, to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. Companies receive no money up front and must meet job creation and investment performance standards to qualify for grant funds. One NC grants also require and are contingent upon financial matches from local governments.

In addition to [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other partners that helped with this project include the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [NCWorks](#), [Duke Energy](#), [High Point Economic Development Corporation](#), [City of High Point](#), and [Guilford County](#).

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RURAL FOCUS

Communities Prep for New Jobs with Utility Account

With Mocksville's Southpointe Business Park operating at near capacity, Davie County leaders wanted to expand the park to include 85 additional acres nearby, but linking the two properties would require a new road and bridge.

To address the challenge, Davie leaders turned to the state's Utility Account for help. Earlier this year, the North Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority approved a \$450,000 request by the Town of Mocksville that will help make new parcels available for businesses and jobs.

The Utility Account of the Industrial Development Fund provides grants to local governments of Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties. It is derived from a portion of the Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) awards. Utility Account funds may be used for roads, water and sewer lines, rail spurs and other publicly-owned infrastructure. There is no maximum for Utility Account grants, but awards are made based on an expectation that job creation will occur as a result.

Terry Bralley, president of the Davie County Economic Development Commission, said the new roadway at Southpointe Business Park sets the stage for new shell buildings there and, ultimately, new employers. "Roads, water and sewer are a weakness for rural counties like ours," Bralley said. Keeping an inventory of ready industrial properties "gets us there before the need is there, and helps us stay competitive."



For more information about the Industrial Development Fund / Utility Account, which provides grants to units of local government for public infrastructure in Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties, email [Mark Poole](#).

[Read more.](#)

AR Textiles to Open New Facility and Create 38 Jobs in Martin County

AR Textiles Ltd. will be locating a new manufacturing facility in Martin County and plans to create 38 new jobs over the next three years. The company plans to invest \$12 million in the town of Robersonville over the same period.

"North Carolina's experience and leadership in the textile industry will serve AR Textiles very well," said Governor Pat McCrory. "Leading manufacturers recognize that our state brings together all the right elements so they can achieve more."

AR Textiles is part of Sunflag, a global group of companies with international operations ranging from yarns, fabrics, garment and household textiles utilizing the latest technology and machinery. The Sunflag group has diversified from its textile foundation into steel, power generation, healthcare, property and related services. The company will be producing cotton yarn at its Robersonville facility.

"AR Textiles will be a great addition to one of North Carolina's traditional manufacturing industries," said N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla. "The company will not only buy N.C. cotton, but also make N.C. yarn. I expect to see this company grow its North Carolina operations with such a significant investment."

"AR Textiles considered a number of alternative locations in the U.S. and internationally," said Rao Palaparty, Vice President of AR Textiles. "However, we were persuaded by the Martin County Economic Development Corporation and its county officials to locate the manufacturing facility in Martin County."

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant from the One North Carolina Fund of up to \$114,400. The North Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority also awarded Martin County a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$750,000 to support the reuse of a building in Robersonville. AR Textiles plans to locate its new operations in a building that has been vacant for more than three years.

In addition to [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#), other partners that helped with this project include the [Rural Infrastructure Authority](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Edgecombe Martin Electric Membership Corporation](#), [Martin County Economic](#)



Photo courtesy of the City of Morganton

Morganton's Next Main Steet Enhancement Focuses on Food

The N.C. Department of Commerce announced August 14 that the City of Morganton has been awarded up to \$25,000 from the Main Street Solutions Fund.

"The North Carolina Main Street Center continues to help in revitalizing communities throughout the state," said Secretary of Commerce John Skvarla. "We are pleased to revive urban historic buildings and to assist in the creation of at least ten new jobs in downtown Morganton."

"We are excited about this project," said Liz Parham, director of the North Carolina Main Street Center. "The project in Morganton rehabilitates an abandoned building on the edge of downtown Morganton and will renovate it to become a grocery store. The new grocery store 'Food Matters' will feature locally sourced foods, will add to the walkability of downtown and should assist in attracting urban housing development."

Morganton, along with other Main Street and Small Town Main Street communities in North Carolina, is successfully following the principles of the National Main Street Center's [Four-Point Approach](#) to downtown revitalization. North Carolina Main Street and Small Town Main Street have experienced 2.2 billion in public and private investment and a net gain of more than 19,000 jobs since the inception of the program in 1980.



For additional information about the Main Street Solutions Fund, visit nccommerce.com/MainStreet, or contact Ed Davis, Grants Administrator at (919) 715-0531.

[Development Corporation, and Martin County.](#)

[Read more.](#)

N.C. in the News

- [Explore what makes Apex, NC Money's 2015 Best Place to Live](#) (*Money* magazine - August 16)
- [CEO: Honda Aircraft could deliver first jet by "late summer"](#) (*News & Record* - Greensboro - August 13)
- [Duke Energy CEO elected to Boeing board](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - August 13)
- [Key N.C. incentive gets new life, moving quickly through legislature](#) (*Charlotte Business Journal* - August 6)
- [Will Downtown Wilmington Become NC's Newest Startup Hub?](#) (*Exit Event* - August 4)

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