

# sync<sup>TM</sup> Highlights from the North Carolina Department of Commerce



*Governor Pat McCrory and Sealed Air President & CEO Jerome A. Peribere talk to the news media after announcing the company's headquarters move to Charlotte.*

## Sealed Air Establishing New Corporate Headquarters in Charlotte

Sealed Air Corporation has announced it will establish its new global headquarters in Mecklenburg County. The company plans to create 1,262 jobs in Charlotte by the end of 2017. Governor Pat McCrory made the announcement July 23 in Charlotte.

Sealed Air is a Fortune 500 company that generated revenue of approximately \$7.7 billion in 2013. The company creates packaging and hygiene solutions for name brands such as Cryovac® food packaging solutions, Bubble Wrap® brand cushioning and Diversey™ cleaning and hygiene solutions.

"While Sealed Air's global corporate headquarters is new to Charlotte, this company is not new to North Carolina," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker. "The company has two production facilities; one in Richmond County, the other in Caldwell County, as well as sales offices throughout the state."

Sealed Air will be relocating to Charlotte from its current headquarters in Elmwood Park, New Jersey; and all or part of its facilities in Saddle Brook, New Jersey; Danbury, Connecticut; Racine, Wisconsin; and Duncan and Greenville,

## Ideal Fastener Corporation to Expand Facility in Granville County

Ideal Fastener Corporation has announced it will be expanding its facility in Granville County. The company plans to create 155 jobs in Oxford by the end of 2019 and invest more than \$5.7 million.

Ideal Fastener Corporation is a privately held company established in 1936 and is the second-largest zipper manufacturer in the world. The company is involved in every aspect of the styling, technology and manufacturing of zippers. The company has more than 3,500 employees with six manufacturing facilities in four different countries, as well as sales and support offices in more than 18 countries. The company currently employs 226 people at its Oxford facility.

"This expansion in Oxford will enable Ideal Fastener to manufacture a zipper using new technology that its customers will be able to apply to their products," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker. "To have this new product made by North Carolina workers is further evidence of the quality workforce we have to offer employers."

The company has been manufacturing in North Carolina for more than 45 years.

## North Carolina Industrial Commission's New Fraud Alerting Tool Results in Criminal Charges

A new fraud alerting tool recently installed by the North Carolina Industrial Commission has led to criminal charges being filed against North Carolina employers who failed to maintain workers' compensation insurance. The Noncompliant Employer Targeting System (NETS) uses data from various state agencies and produces a list of potentially noncompliant employers ranked in terms of priority. NETS went online April 14, 2014.

As part of a proactive enforcement operation in Guilford County using NETS, The North Carolina Industrial Commission identified five

South Carolina. The company will also relocate a few employees from other locations.

Sealed Air has approximately 25,000 employees who serve customers in 175 countries.



Governor Pat McCrory announcing that Spectra Group, Inc. is coming to Charlotte at a news conference at the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce.

## Spectra Group, Inc. Expanding to Charlotte

New Jersey-based Spectra Group Inc. has announced it will be moving its financial services delivery center to Mecklenburg County. The company plans to create 250 jobs in Charlotte by the end of 2018.

"Companies such as Spectra Group continue to be attracted to North Carolina because of our great business climate and the financial services we have located here," said Governor McCrory who was on hand for the announcement at the Charlotte Chamber. "This move to Charlotte will put it in the center of one of the largest banking and financial communities in the country."

"It is always good to welcome a new company to North Carolina," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker. "With our reputation as a great place for information technology and our talented workforce, North Carolina will be an excellent fit for Spectra Group."

Headquartered in Princeton, New Jersey, Spectra Group, Inc. specializes in staff augmentation with a niche for candidates in financial engineering, electronic trading and a primary background in fixed income and equities markets.

## North Carolina Main Street Communities Receive 2014 National Main Street Accreditation

The N.C. Department of Commerce, Office of Urban Development has announced that 20 North Carolina communities have achieved accreditation from the National Main Street Center for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Main Street Center®, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Each year, the National Main Street Center and its partners announce the list of accredited Main Street® programs, which have demonstrated exemplary commitment to historic preservation and community revitalization through

employers who allegedly failed to maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance.

"The proactive enforcement operation in Guilford County is an example of the North Carolina Industrial Commission's commitment to enforcing compliance with the Workers' Compensation Act, which will benefit workers and law abiding employers," said Industrial Commission Chairman Andrew Heath.

The operation was led by the Industrial Commission's Chief Investigator and included all five of the Industrial Commission's sworn law enforcement officers. It was coordinated with the Guilford County District Attorney's Office.

## Scott T. Hamilton Named Executive Director of Appalachian Regional Commission

Scott T. Hamilton, president and CEO of AdvantageWest Economic Development Group, has been appointed executive director of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). ARC is a partnership of federal, state and local government working for sustainable community and economic development in Appalachia.

Each year ARC provides funding for economic development projects in the 13-state Appalachian Region, including western North Carolina, in areas such as business development, education and job training, telecommunications infrastructure, community development, housing and transportation.

AdvantageWest is a non-profit regional economic development organization that has served the western region of North Carolina since 1994. During Hamilton's nine-year tenure at AdvantageWest, ARC grants have helped support the group's programs, including Blue Ridge Food Ventures.

Hamilton begins his appointment in September.

## Year-to-date Metrics

Below are year-to-date metrics tracked by the N.C. Department of Commerce. The metrics include the number of new economic development projects assigned to developers. 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.

Jan. 1 - Aug. 5, 2014

**New projects assigned: 207**

the Main Street Four Point Approach®.

The North Carolina Main Street programs that have earned accreditation for their 2013 performance are Brevard, Burlington, Clayton, Concord, Elizabeth City, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Goldsboro, Hickory, Kings Mountain, Lincolnton, Marion, Monroe, Morganton, New Bern, Spruce Pine, Statesville, Wake Forest, Waynesville and Wilson.

"We congratulate this year's nationally accredited Main Street programs for their outstanding accomplishment in meeting the National Main Street Center's performance standards," said Patrice Frey, president & CEO of the National Main Street Center. "Accredited Main Street programs create vibrant communities by using a comprehensive strategy to preserve their historic character and revitalize their commercial districts, which helps make these great places to work, live, play and visit."

Established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1980, the National Main Street Center helps communities of all sizes revitalize their older and historic commercial districts.

## NC TOWER Now On Line; New Tool Will Allow Tracking of Post-Graduation Data in North Carolina

The North Carolina Department of Commerce's Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) has launched a powerful online resource called NC TOWER (Tool for Online Workforce and Education Reporting). NC TOWER provides up to ten years of post-graduation employment, wage, and continuing enrollment outcomes for graduates of the North Carolina Community College System and University of North Carolina system.

The new tool is intended to provide useful information to anyone with a stake in understanding the outcomes of North Carolina's public higher education programs, including students and parents looking at college options, college and university program evaluators, workforce development and education professionals and policymakers, as well as economic developers assessing the available workforce.

NC TOWER provides the ability to track the workforce and educational outcomes of graduates for up to 10 years after their graduation. The tool also allows users to make visual comparisons of program outcomes across campuses, degree types, and subject areas.

"North Carolina's highly skilled and educated workforce is a major selling point for companies looking to invest and expand in the state," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker. "NC TOWER now gives us the ability to see the payoff from ongoing investments in educating and training North Carolinians to succeed in those jobs."

NC TOWER is a product of the statewide Common Follow-up System (CFS), a longitudinal repository of workforce and education data maintained by LEAD.

NC TOWER is available at [www.nctower.com](http://www.nctower.com)

<b>Projects announced:</b>	71
<b>Jobs announced:</b>	8,029
<b>Capital investment announced:</b>	\$958M
<b>Industry visits by existing industry staff:</b>	399
<b>Calls to Business Link N.C.:</b>	11,344

## N.C. in the News

### This Week's Highlights

- [Burlington's downtown efforts win Main Street designation](#) (*The Times-News*, July 22, 2014)
- [Brevard Gains 'Main Street' Accreditation](#) - Brevard NC (*The Transylvania Times*, July 23, 2014)
- [Sealed Air Corp. moving headquarters to Charlotte, bringing nearly 1,300 jobs](#) (*The Charlotte Observer*, July 23, 2014)
- [Ideal Fastener to Create 155 Jobs](#) (*The Herald-Sun*, July 23, 2014)

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