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Weekly highlights from the  
North Carolina Department of Commerce



N.C. Dept. of Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll and Sec. Keith Crisco recognize Dr. Terri Helmlinger Ratcliff of the N.C. State University Industrial Extension Service after reading Gov. Bev Perdue's proclamation.

## Manufacturing Makes It Real tour ends with rally

After a week criss-crossing the state, the Manufacturing Makes It Real bus tour concluded Oct. 1 with a rally in front of the Legislative Building.

A convoy including a tractor-trailer, a hybrid school bus from Thomas Built and a red yacht from Winter Custom Yachts pulled up to the rally. Inside the truck were dozens of items, from pickles to military protective gear, all made in North Carolina.

N.C. Dept. of Commerce Sec. Keith Crisco and Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll presented [Gov. Bev Perdue's proclamation](#) declaring the week of Sept. 27 "Manufacturing Makes It Real Week," and urging all North Carolinians to recognize the importance of manufacturing to the state. N.C. State University Chancellor Randy Woodson and N.C. Community Colleges President Scott Ralls also spoke at the event. The tour was sponsored by N.C. State University's Industrial Extension Service. N.C. State cheerleaders, and mascots Mr. and Mrs. Wuff helped celebrate at the rally. [Read more.](#)

[Out to prove that manufacturing is cool](#) (The News & Observer, Sept. 28)



U.S. Dept. of Commerce Assistant Sec. for Trade Promotion Suresh Kumar (back to the camera) speaks with (left - right) Phase Change Energy Solutions Executive Vice President Peter Horwath, Thermaco Global Market Analyst Byron Owen George, Vesture Corporation President Byron Owens, and N.C. Dept. of Commerce Business Development Manager Kuldip Wasson.

## Commerce participates in Mexican Green Expo

[The Green Expo 2010](#) took place Sept. 28-30 at the World Trade Center in Mexico City, with more than 160 exhibitors displaying leading-edge solutions in environmental sustainability from around the world. The event brought together hundreds of buyers and sellers of green technology to discuss various opportunities in the Mexican market. Three North Carolina companies exhibited in the N.C. Dept. of Commerce sponsored booth at the exposition. The customer traffic was very good and the North Carolina companies reported strong show results that exceeded their expectations. Commerce Business Development Manager Kuldip Wasson and Trade Representative Laura Camberos participated in the event to facilitate North Carolina exports and help the companies form alliances and partnerships with Mexican buyers.

## Federal bill to help support small businesses

On Sept. 27, President Barack Obama signed the Small Business Jobs Act, a bill that will give our nation's small businesses support and incentives to help them grow and hire. The bill includes a series of small business proposals that the president put forth earlier



(Left-right) Ken Fry of Nypro, Buncombe County Commission Chairman David Gantt, Anita Walkey of Nypro, U.S. Rep. Heath Shuler, N.C. Rep. Jane Whilden, Asheville-Buncombe Economic Development Coalition Chair Ray Bailey, N.C. Dept. of Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll, Joe Freitas of Nypro and Asheville Area Chamber CEO Rick Lutovsky

## Partnership to bring 241 jobs, \$161M in investment, to Buncombe, Johnston

Gov. Bev Perdue announced Oct. 4 that Novo Nordisk, a global healthcare company and leader in diabetes care, and Nypro Inc., a global leader in manufactured precision plastics products, will expand operations in Johnston County and Buncombe County. The companies plan to create 241 jobs over the next four years and will invest \$161 million combined. The two-company, multi-county project was made possible in part by state grants from the Job Development Investment Grant program and One North Carolina Fund. N.C. Dept. of Commerce Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll participated in an announcement event at the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce.

"North Carolina continues to gain national attention for our job growth, and this wonderful announcement is an example of why," said Perdue. "Our skilled workforce, custom education and training programs, and top-rated business climate are attracting global companies looking for the best place to expand or relocate." [Read more.](#) [See video coverage of the event.](#) [Photo gallery.](#)

[Novo Nordisk to expand Clayton insulin products plant](#) (WRAL - Raleigh, Oct. 4)

this year. Small businesses will start benefiting from the bill on day one.

The bill immediately extends successful SBA Recovery Act provisions, meaning that within a few days, it will restart the SBA's Recovery lending, beginning with the more than 1,300 small businesses that have been waiting to get the credit they need – with thousands more benefitting in the coming weeks. And the bill includes eight new small business tax cuts – all effective as of Oct. 4, and applying to small businesses' taxes for this year – providing an immediate incentive for businesses to make new investments and expand. [Read more.](#)

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## Packaging manufacturer to bring 40 jobs to Edgecombe County

Gov. Bev Perdue on Oct. 1 announced that FCA, an Illinois-based custom packaging manufacturing company, will open a new facility in Edgecombe County. FCA selected the KanBan Logistics facility located in the Kingsboro Industrial Park to manufacture skids that will house advanced manufactured engines for Cummins, a large industrial company in the region. Initially the company will employ 20 individuals with plans to grow to 40 employees.

"Once again, North Carolina proves to be an attractive location for manufacturers looking to expand or relocate," said Perdue. "We have a tremendously skilled workforce and a top-rated business climate. Creating jobs is my top priority and we worked successfully with our partners in bringing these jobs to Edgecombe County."

As a leader in custom designed industrial packaging solutions, FCA offers a broad range of custom packaging that includes wood, steel, corrugated and hybrid products. The company will occupy approximately 40,000 square feet and begin operations within the next 60 days. [Read more.](#)

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## Grant to fund health workforce needs assessment

The U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services has announced that the Commission on Workforce Development is the recipient of a \$144,595 State Health Care Workforce Development Planning grant. The proposal was submitted by the Commission on behalf of the UNC-Chapel Hill's Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. The Sheps Center will use the funding to conduct a health workforce needs



Gov. Bev Perdue laughs with Kevin Carter, CEO of TIMCO Aerosystems, after Perdue puts her feet up in a TIMCO aircraft seat on Sept. 28 at Davidson County Community College during a press conference to announce that the company will open a plant in Wallburg and hire up to 500 workers. (Photo by Donnie Roberts, courtesy of the Lexington Dispatch)

## Perdue announces up to 500 aerospace jobs in Davidson County

TIMCO Aerosystems will open a manufacturing operation that makes airline passenger seats and interior systems, such as galley and lavatory systems, in the former Tyco plant in Wallburg in the first quarter of 2011 and eventually employ 500 people.

Gov. Bev Perdue made the announcement at Davidson County Community College on Sept. 28, surrounded by local and state officials. To help facilitate this expansion, the company has been awarded a \$200,000 grant from the state's One North Carolina Fund. The state's Economic Investment Committee also voted that same day to award the company a Job Development Investment Grant of up to \$1.8 million over nine years for meeting job creation targets.

[TIMCO Aerosystems to bring up to 500 jobs to Davidson County](#) (The Lexington Dispatch, Sept.28, 2010)

## Crisco helps push for more STEM education

Education, business and other leaders gathered in Raleigh Sept. 28 for an all day summit on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. The morning kicked off with N.C. Dept. of Commerce Sec. Keith Crisco explaining why this type of education is necessary for the state's future success.

"Our economic success will be directly proportional to our ability to do good in STEM, our success in STEM, and the capability of our students in a wide range of conditions," said Crisco.

Crisco said this is because as the state works to recruit new companies and jobs to North Carolina, STEM education is

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assessment. The data gathered will be used to identify "high priority" skill gaps; assess supply bottlenecks and barriers to increasing the primary care workforce; and articulate potential interventions that could be implemented to address these workforce issues.

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## Energy Office hosts weatherization events

On Sept. 28, the N.C. Weatherization Assistance Program in the N.C. Energy Office hosted a day-long workshop for the 28 local weatherization program providers at the N.C. Rural Center in Raleigh. More than 100 representatives, including agency executive directors, weatherization program coordinators and agency board members from the 28 agencies attended. They heard from a variety of resources to help managers make their programs more efficient and meet their home weatherization goals. The meeting provided some specific ideas on increasing production, training and accountability.

On Sept. 29, the N.C. Energy Office hosted a "Summit on Retrofit Market Growth Opportunities" at the N.C. Rural Center in Raleigh. More than 75 representatives from the commercial and residential construction industry, lenders, non-profits and government agencies attended to begin work on developing a comprehensive approach to growing the residential retrofit market in North Carolina to make new and remodeled homes more energy efficient and make those improvements affordable. The summit was the first in a series of sessions that will be held to develop the program, which is receiving significant funding through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. A \$4,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation is helping finance the sessions, which are being lead by the state's [Small Business and Technology Development Center](#).

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## Metrics from B&I Division

now part of the equation.

"Companies that are here, that are growing, and companies that come here are all looking for people with backgrounds that understand, and are comfortable with math and science."

[Leaders push more STEM education](#) (News 14 Carolina, Sept. 28)

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## Piedmont Triad Partnership to host home furnishings seminar

[The Piedmont Triad Partnership](#), an economic development group representing North Carolina's 12-county Piedmont Triad Region, will host a seminar with the International Home Furnishings Center at the High Point Market for companies interested in learning about the competitive advantage this area offers in the global marketplace of furnishings. The seminar to be held Oct. 19 at noon in the IHFC High Point Room is part of a comprehensive new furnishings initiative to be unveiled at Market on opening day, Oct. 16.

A panel of experts will provide a guide to the world-class concentration of assets for domestic and international companies seeking to cultivate manufacturing, logistics and distribution, supply chain management, training, creative services and other business resources.

The panelists, hosted by David Powell who started his duties as CEO of the PTP last month, will address the following topics:

- The Wealth of Furnishings Education and Training: Joy Bhadury, Ph.D., UNC-Greensboro
- A Global Infrastructure for Logistics and Distribution: C. David Hauser, PTP, vice president, Logistics and Distribution
- A Natural Location for Domestic Distribution Operations: Kevin O'Connor, president and CEO, Samson Marketing

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## Concert could bring economic boost to Asheville

When Elton John plays a return concert Nov. 16 at the Asheville Civic Center, it could arguably be the biggest single concert there in a decade. But what's certain is the economic impact the concert will have downtown. The show will likely generate \$1 million in spending as fans book hotel rooms and purchase food, drinks, gasoline, souvenirs and more, said Civic Center director, Sam Powers. And it comes during what would be a slow period "on a Tuesday night in November, after leaf season," he said.

[Elton John to bring \\$1M lift to Asheville](#) (The Asheville Citizen-Times, Sept. 29)

Below are year-to-date metrics tracked by the N.C. Dept. of Commerce's Division of Business and Industry that illustrate some of the recent activities of the division. The metrics include the number of new economic development projects assigned to B&I development staff; 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 - Oct. 4, 2010

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| New projects assigned:                      | 329     |
| Projects announced:                         | 94      |
| Jobs created:                               | 12,166  |
| Capital invested:                           | \$2.44B |
| Industry visits by existing industry staff: | 1,043   |
| Calls to the Business ServiCenter:          | 17,808  |

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## N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [Push is on for skills](#) (The Winston-Salem Journal, Oct. 4)
- [Keith Corp. set to break ground on \\$38M Becton, Dickinson plant](#) (Business Journal of the Greater Triad, Sept. 29)
- [North Carolina receives \\$4.5 million to expand broadband access](#) (Gov Monitor, Sept. 28)

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