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Weekly highlights from the
North Carolina Department of Commerce



(Left-right) TIMCO Aerosystems President Rick Salantri, Golden LEAF Foundation President Dan Gerlach, Davidson County Commissioners Chairman Sam Watford, Governor Bev Perdue, Town of Wallburg Mayor Allen L. Todd and N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Keith Crisco

TIMCO unveils new Davidson County facility

Greensboro-based TIMCO Aviation Services officially opened its new 120,000-square-foot aircraft seat facility Nov. 7 in Davidson County, where the company will eventually employ 500 people in full-time positions.

Governor Bev Perdue spoke at the event and noted that both TIMCO and state officials are proud to say the seats are manufactured in North Carolina. She said the company is an example of what the state must do in a tough economic environment. N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Keith Crisco also participated in the opening. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Melissa Smith](#) was the original developer on this project.

[TIMCO unveils new Davidson County facility](#) (*The Business Journal of the Greater Triad*, Nov. 7)



(Left-right) Josh Rabina and Todd Aaron with Sentinel Data Centers, N.C. Department of Commerce Economic Developer Margie Bukowski and Secretary Keith Crisco

Site consultants meet N.C.'s economic development team

On Nov. 2, more than 40 site selection advisors gathered at Le Bernardin in New York City to hear an update on current business conditions in the state from N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Keith Crisco and other state economic developers. With 2011 project activity remaining strong, Secretary Crisco detailed the many ways North Carolina is meeting the challenging environment and providing companies the competitive advantages they need to Thrive in the state.

Certified Retirement Communities highlighted

During its last session, the General Assembly charged the N.C. Department of Commerce's Division Tourism, Film and Sports Development with marketing the state's [Certified Retirement Communities](#), which have been officially recognized for positioning themselves to attract retirees as an economic and community development strategy.

The Division will hold an informational session to discuss the Certified Retirement Community program on Dec. 7 from 1-2:30 p.m.

The Certified Retirement Community program is for communities that are positioning themselves for retiree attraction as an



(Left-right) N.C. Department of Commerce Secretary Keith Crisco, NCACC President-elect Howard Hunter, NCACC First Vice President Ray Jeffers, Governor Bev Perdue, NCACC President Kenneth Edge, NCACC Legislative Coordinator Alissa Willett, NCACC Second Vice President Ronnie Beale and Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll (photo courtesy NCACC)

Perdue, NCACC meet at Commerce

On Nov. 4, Governor Bev Perdue and the N.C. Association of County Commissioners' Executive Committee met in the N.C. Department of Commerce boardroom for a jobs and economic development roundtable. Secretary Keith Crisco and Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll answered questions and shared information during the roundtable. Each member of the executive committee presented information on the status of economic development in their communities and four respective regions of the state.

Biotech company to open facility in Brunswick County

Governor Bev Perdue on Nov. 2 announced that CMS Food Solutions Inc., owner of an innovative proprietary food safety technology, will open a manufacturing facility in Leland. The project is expected to create 52 jobs and the company expects to invest \$4.4 million in the plant. The project was made possible in part by a \$32,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Ken Allen](#) was the developer on this project.

"Creating jobs is my top priority, and North Carolina has the universities, research and workforce that continue to attract leading biotechnology companies," said Perdue. "Our terrific business climate and skilled workforce make North Carolina an excellent location for companies who share our vision of a sustainable future. We welcome CMS Food Solutions to our state."

CMS Food Solutions Inc. is a privately held corporation which does research and development, marketing and manufacturing of biotechnologies. CMS Food Solutions' proprietary antimicrobial applications are custom blended, specifically targeting pathogens and spoilage bacteria to preserve harvested fruits and vegetables as well as other foods. The manufacturing processes use natural ingredients and produce no waste. CMS currently has a manufacturing facility in Conroe, Texas. Its multi-year sales agreements with companies in the food industry require the current expansion in production capacity. The company expects the plant to be operational in 2012.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average annual wage for the new jobs is estimated to be \$43,115, plus benefits. The Brunswick County average annual wage is \$32,500. [Read more.](#)

economic and community development strategy. North Carolina currently enjoys a robust in-migration of retirees to the state, and the program seeks to attract retirees and those planning to retire to make their homes here. The program encourages mature market travel to North Carolina to evaluate future retirement desirability and to visit those who have chosen to retire in North Carolina.

You are invited to attend this informational session on Dec. 7 to hear an overview of the Certified Retirement Community program, learn the details of the application process from the Division of Community Assistance, see comprehensive marketing initiatives from the Division of Tourism and share your input. The meeting location will be based on attendance, so please RSVP to visitnc@nccommerce.com by Nov. 23. By the end of November, you will be notified of the meeting location.



(Left-right) N.C. Department of Commerce International Trade Division Director Jean Davis, Assistant Secretary for Tourism, Marketing and Global Branding Lynn Minges, Secretary Keith Crisco, Bahamas Atlanta Consul General Katherine Smith and Grand Lucayan Resort Sales Executive Chris Aubanel

Bahamas Atlanta Consulate visits Raleigh

Bahamas Atlanta Consul General Katherine Smith, Consul Monique Vanderpool and Grand Lucayan Resort Sales Executive Chris Aubanel visited Raleigh in an effort to promote business opportunities available in The Bahamas.

While there they also had an opportunity to promote the Bahamas government's new partnership with Vision Airlines, which starts non-stop flights from Raleigh-Durham International Airport to Freeport, Grand Bahama this month.

They met with officials from the N.C. Department of Commerce: Secretary Keith

Ferraro Foods to add 23 new jobs in Alamance County

Governor Bev Perdue on Nov. 4 announced that Ferraro Foods of North Carolina, a wholesale importer and distributor of Italian foods and restaurant related products, plans to create 23 new jobs and invest \$5.975 million dollars during the next three years in Mebane. The project was made possible in part by a \$70,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund. The N.C. Department of Commerce's [Margie Bukowski](#) was the developer on this project.

"Creating new jobs—both attracting new companies to locate in North Carolina, and helping our existing companies grow and thrive—is priority number one," said Perdue. "Our history of investing in education and job training continues to help existing businesses grow by maintaining a strong business climate."

As part of the project, the company will build a state-of-the-art warehouse and office building in Alamance County. The company is currently located in High Point and will offer to transfer the 58 employees at that location to the new facility in Mebane. In addition, Ferraro Foods of North Carolina will add the 23 new jobs.

Ferraro Foods Inc., the parent company to Ferraro Foods of North Carolina, was established in 1975 and is headquartered in New Jersey. The consolidated companies serve over 3,500 customers in 16 states.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average wage for the new jobs will be \$44,130, plus benefits. The Alamance County average annual wage is \$33,280. [Read more.](#)



(Left-right) N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll and Bosch Rexroth Americas Regional President Berend Bracht (photo courtesy Bosch Rexroth)

Bosch Rexroth Americas celebrates two state-of-the-art facilities in Charlotte

On Nov. 2, Bosch Rexroth Americas held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its new logistics center in Charlotte. The event included tours of the logistics center and the company's

Crisco, Assistant Secretary for Tourism, Marketing and Global Branding Lynn Minges and Director of International Trade Jean Davis. They also met with Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker and President of the Chamber of Commerce Harvey Schmitt.



(Left-right) Kingsdown UK Regional Manager Spencer Nicholis, President of International Sales Lee Hinshaw, N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll, International License Manager Solveiga Adams, Asia Branch Manager Frances Chay, and Japan Regional Manager Go Taguchi

N.C. Furnishings Export Council meets during High Point Market

Members and special guests attended the bi-annual meeting of the North Carolina Furnishings Export Council on Oct. 25 during the High Point Market. Chairman Charlie Greene welcomed the group and gave a positive overview of the Market. Speakers included N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll; U.S. Commercial Service/U.S. Department of Commerce Specialist Wasif Shah; High Point Market President/CEO Tom Conley, and N.C. Furniture Export Office Director Mike Padjen.

New Small Town Main Street communities hold celebrations

Community kick-off meetings have been held for the new [Small Town Main Street](#) communities of Warrenton, Pittsboro, Lillington, Troutman and Bessemer City. A STMS resource team spent the day touring each community, interviewing town officials and local citizens and establishing a program of work for the next two years.

150,000 expected to visit 'Rembrandt in America' at N.C. Museum of Art

"Rembrandt in America," billed as the largest collection of authentic American Rembrandts ever gathered in one place, is the most ambitious showcase exhibit the N.C. Museum

advanced manufacturing facility, also located in Charlotte. N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll served as guest speaker for the event.

[Bosch Rexroth shows new logistics center](#) (*The Charlotte Observer*, Nov. 3)



ATI Industrial Automation CEO Keith Morris (center) explains how robotic tool changers operate during the ATI groundbreaking ceremony.

ATI expands in Apex

ATI Industrial Automation on Nov. 3 held a groundbreaking ceremony for an operations expansion at its corporate headquarters in Apex. More than doubling the company's current manufacturing and inventory capacity, the new expansion will enable ATI to hire up to 50 additional employees. High demand for ATI's robotic end-effector products continues to fuel the company's growth. The expansion is planned for completion in early 2012. N.C. Department of Commerce Director of Business & Industry Services [Susan Fleetwood](#) and Existing Industry Specialist [Anna Lea](#) represented Commerce at the event.

"Global pressure for ever-higher manufacturing productivity continues to drive demand for our products. This facility expansion will carry us well into the future, enabling us to continue to reduce lead times while providing a superior level of quality." said CEO Keith Morris. [Read more.](#)



of Art in Raleigh has attempted since opening its new building last year. It features 47 works of art in 15,000-square-feet of gallery space. The first major exhibition to explore in depth the collecting history of Rembrandt paintings in America, the exhibition has been in the works for five years and runs through Jan. 22, 2012. Since its opening, visitors from as far away as Russia have seen the exhibit, and Museum Director Larry Wheeler expects about 150,000 people to see the paintings.

[Learn more.](#)

Year-to-date Metrics

Below are year-to-date metrics tracked by the N.C. Department of Commerce's Division of Business and Industry Development 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 - Nov. 8, 2011

New projects assigned:	345
Projects announced:	138
Jobs announced:	12,865
Capital investment announced:	\$2.652B
Industry visits by existing industry staff:	1,292
Calls to Business Link N.C.:	15,398

N.C. in the News

This Week's Highlights

- [N.C. to christen new ferry on Outer Banks run](#) (The Associated Press, Nov. 7)
- [USO opens new center at Fayetteville airport](#) (The Associated Press, Nov. 7)
- [Shale gas means money, plenty of water worries](#) (The News & Observer, Nov. 7)
- [Rising tuition: The cost may be too high](#) (The News & Record - Greensboro, Nov. 6)
- [FMC Lithium expanding in Gaston](#) (The Charlotte Observer, Nov. 5)
- [VIDEO: Green Business Fund winners on UNC-TV](#) (WUNC, Sept. 23)

Port of Wilmington expands global access with new service

The 550-foot *Imola Express* began loading at the Port of Wilmington on Nov. 2 for its third call as part of the new regular roll-on/roll-off (ro-ro) service between North Carolina and West Africa. Wilmington serves as a loading port for Sallaum Lines ro-ro vessels used extensively in the movement of automobiles, construction equipment and project cargo. Ports of call in West Africa include Conakry, Guinea; Lome, Togo; Cotonou, Benin; and Lagos, Nigeria.

"The Port of Wilmington is pleased to welcome Sallaum Lines to the Port of Wilmington," said Tom Eagar, CEO, N.C. State Ports Authority. "Sallaum Lines is expected to call Wilmington every 40 days with the hopes of incorporating more calls as cargo flow warrants."

"Sallaum is entering into a long and mutually beneficial relationship with N.C.'s Ports. We have been impressed with the facilities, customer service and personnel we have encountered, which were significant factors in our decision to add Wilmington to our schedule," said Bill Ruff, managing director, Sallaum Lines DMCC. [Read more.](#)

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[Tourism Services](#) | [Workforce Services](#) | [Press Room](#)

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