



Governor McCrory Announces 550-Job Expansion by INC Research in Wake County

Governor Pat McCrory, North Carolina Commerce Secretary John E. Skvarla, III, and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) announced December 13 that INC Research Holdings, Inc. intends to launch a major expansion to its headquarters in Wake County, creating 550 jobs over the next several years. The provider of clinical development services plans to invest \$37.9 million in its North Carolina expansion.

"North Carolina's excellent business climate, highly skilled workforce and unmatched quality of life continue to attract jobs in the life sciences," said **Governor McCrory**. "INC Research's significant expansion brings additional energy to our state, leading the way in contract research."

Founded in 1998, INC Research is a global contract research organization ("CRO"), providing a full array of Phase I to Phase IV clinical development services for the biopharmaceutical and medical device industries. Headquartered in Raleigh with operations across six continents, the publicly-traded company currently employs more than 6,700 employees globally - 1,376 are based in North Carolina.

"North Carolina was a pioneer in clinical trials and continues to be home to the industry's leading names," said **Secretary Skvarla**. "This latest expansion by INC Research highlights the talent pipelines, engaged colleges and universities, and connections to major markets that enable our state to build on



Automotive Components Maker to Expand, Creating 302 New Jobs

GKN Driveline will expand operations at its four North Carolina facilities in Alamance, Catawba, Lee and Person counties. The company plans to add a total of 302 jobs and invest at least \$179 million in the state over the next five years.

"GKN Driveline's long and special relationship with North Carolina is set to move to a new level," said **Governor Pat McCrory**. "This announcement is further evidence that North Carolina is one of the most desirable places for innovative global manufacturers to do business. It also means more good jobs for North Carolina workers."

GKN Driveline develops, builds and supplies an extensive range of automotive driveline technologies. The company is a unit of GKN plc, a global engineering business based in Worcestershire, United Kingdom. GKN opened its first facility in North Carolina in 1978, and its various locations in the state currently employ more than 2,700.

"GKN Driveline is a global leader in the automotive industry and our innovative All-Wheel-Drive and eDrive technologies position the company for growth in the coming years," said **Phil Swash, CEO, GKN Driveline**. "North Carolina is an important part of our strategy, with strategically located facilities and an outstanding workforce. GKN Driveline is excited about our expansion and its positive impact on the state and local communities."

GKN Driveline's expansion adds a total of 159 people at its facilities in Sanford, Mebane and Timberlake over five years. Compensation will vary by position, with annual salaries for the new jobs averaging at least \$43,161. Overall annual wages currently average \$36,346 in Alamance

its exemplary record of job creation."

Since Governor McCrory entered office in January 2013, North Carolina's economy has generated more than 300,000 net new jobs.

"We're pleased to announce our continued commitment to North Carolina," said **INC Research Chief Executive Officer Alistair Macdonald**. "The talent base we've been able to attract in our Raleigh and Wilmington offices and across the state in recent years has been phenomenal. We look forward to continued strong growth here and across the globe and couldn't think of a more suitable location to accommodate our growing employee base."

The expansion by INC Research in Wake County will be facilitated, in part, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) approved by the state's Economic Investment Committee. Under the terms of the JDIG, the company is eligible to receive up to \$8.4 million in total reimbursements if it meets its job creation and investment targets. In addition, the expansion could provide as much as \$2.8 million in new funds for the state's Utility Account, which supports infrastructure development in less populated areas of the state.

Partnering with [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) on this project were the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Wake Technical Community College](#), [N.C. Biotechnology Center](#), [Wake County](#), the [Town of Morrisville](#), the [Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce](#) and [Capital Area Workforce Development](#).

[Read more.](#)



Citrix to Add 400 Jobs in Wake County

Governor Pat McCrory announced December 15 that Citrix will add 400 jobs in Wake County over the coming five years. The company plans to invest \$5 million in an expansion of its Raleigh operations.

"This expansion is further evidence that North Carolina's business climate and quality of life are second to none," **Governor McCrory** said. "Our state's highly-skilled workforce continues to make North Carolina a leading destination for

County, \$36,905 in Person County and \$38,163 in Lee County.

The company's expansion in Maiden creates 143 jobs over four years at wages averaging at least \$45,860. Catawba County's overall wages average \$38,238 per year.

"Strong support for existing companies is at the heart of our state's job-creation strategy," said **N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla**. "North Carolina's economy remains one of the best-performing in the nation, and innovative transportation equipment manufacturers like GKN Driveline help us lead the way."

GKN Driveline's expansions in Alamance, Lee and Person counties will be facilitated, in part, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG), making the company eligible to receive up to \$1,539,000 in total reimbursements over 12 years. The company's expansion in Catawba County, facilitated through a separate JDIG, makes GKN eligible to receive up to \$1,587,600 over 12 years.

Numerous partners joined with [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [EDPNC](#) in supporting GKN Driveline's expansion. They include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [N.C. Transportation](#), [Alamance County](#), [Catawba County](#), [Lee County](#), [Person County](#), the [City of Mebane](#), the [Town of Maiden](#), the [Catawba County Economic Development Corporation](#), the [Sanford Area Growth Alliance](#), [Alamance Chamber](#), and the [Person County Economic Development Commission](#).

[Read more.](#)

Total Quality Logistics to Bring 70 Jobs to High Point

Total Quality Logistics LLC (TQL), the second largest freight brokerage firm in North America, will open a new facility in High Point, adding 70 jobs there over the next five years as it invests \$308,000. The target opening date is March 2017.

"This announcement is another example of the continued economic success of North Carolina," said **Governor Pat McCrory**. "I am pleased that Total Quality Logistics, a leading national freight brokerage firm, has chosen to continue to invest in our great state."

Founded in 1997, TQL operates 57 offices across 24 states, maintaining a workforce of 4,200. Its existing North Carolina locations in Durham and Charlotte employ more than 170 workers.

technology jobs."

Publicly-held Citrix provides a complete and integrated portfolio of Workspace-as-a-Service, application delivery, virtualization, mobility, network delivery and file-sharing solutions. Founded in 1989, the Florida-based company reported \$3.28 billion in revenues for 2015. Its operations in downtown Raleigh currently employ a workforce of nearly 800 people.

"North Carolina is all about innovation and Citrix fits right in," said **N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla**. "Our job creation strategy continues to focus on existing businesses such as Citrix that in turn make North Carolina's economy among the best performing in the nation."

Citrix plans to hire software engineers, marketing professionals and account managers. Compensation will vary by position, but the average annual salary of the new jobs will be at least \$73,325. Wake County's overall wages currently average \$52,315 per year.

Under the terms of the company's Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) from the state, Citrix is eligible to receive up to \$5.7 million in total reimbursements. The state's Industrial Development Fund - Utility Account, which is used to help finance economic infrastructure in less populated counties, could see as much as \$1.9 million in new funds based on this agreement.

Several partners joined [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [EDPNC](#) in supporting Citrix's expansion. They include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Wake County](#), [Wake County Economic Development](#), the [City of Raleigh](#), and the [Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce](#).

[Read more.](#)

Rural Infrastructure Grants Will Support 1,183 New Jobs

Governor Pat McCrory announced December 15 that the North Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) approved 26 grant requests totaling \$8,697,833. The requests include commitments to create a total of 1,183 new jobs.

"These grants help create modern infrastructure that enables North Carolina's less populated communities to attract investment and grow their local economies," said **Governor McCrory**. "Business-ready buildings, water and sewer systems, and industrial access are among the prerequisites for success in today's economy."

Authority members review and approve funding requests for grant and loan programs. The programs are operated by the Rural Economic Development team at N.C. Commerce, which is led by Secretary John E. Skvarla, III, and Assistant Secretary Dr. Patricia Mitchell, CEcD. Grants support infrastructure development, building renovation and expansion, and site improvements.

Since its creation by Governor McCrory and the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013, the Authority has approved approximately \$128 million in awards.

Grants are awarded in a variety of categories. A [complete list of the awarded projects and communities benefiting](#) is available online.

"Logistics providers like TQL connect North Carolina businesses to their markets," said **N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla**. "They help catalyze our state's \$337 billion supply-chain economy."

"Opening a new location in High Point helps us to build on the success we've had in North Carolina for several years," said **TQL president Kerry Byrne**. "Charlotte was our company's third-ever satellite office to open in the country, and we are pleased to continue to grow our footprint in the state."

The expansion by TQL was made possible in part by a performance-based grant of up to \$70,000 from the One North Carolina Fund.

Among the organizations and entities working with [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) in supporting TQL's expansion were the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), the [City of High Point](#), the [High Point Economic Development Corporation](#), the [Guilford County Economic Development Alliance](#), and the [Greensboro Chamber of Commerce](#).

[Read more.](#)

Home Elevator and Lift Products to Bring 22 Jobs to Greene County

Home Elevator & Lift Products LLC will expand in Greene County. The company intends to create 22 jobs over the coming three years, investing nearly \$560,000 at its manufacturing facility there.

"North Carolina continues to grow manufacturing jobs," said **Governor Pat McCrory**. "From boat lifts to residential chair lifts, Home Elevator builds on exceptional experience and expertise in its industry."

Home Elevator was established by Tide Tamer Industries, a manufacturer of marine lifts, cargo elevators and related products. Founded in 1995, the company holds numerous patents. Its expansion involves producing and servicing passenger elevators such as chair lifts for the residential market. The company currently employs 24 people in North Carolina.

"Making goods and products is in North Carolina's DNA," said **N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla**. "Home Elevator & Lift Products keeps our great state ranked first in the Southeast for the number of manufacturing jobs."

Home Elevator intends to hire 22 workers at its operations in Snow Hill. Positions will include production workers, installation technicians and sales representatives. Salaries will vary by position, but will average



The old Kinston power plant, new home of Social Beverage Company.

Governor McCrory Announces New Craft Distillery Selects Lenoir County

Social Beverage Company, LLC will locate a craft distillery in Lenoir County, creating 34 new jobs and investing \$5.8 million in the city of Kinston over three years. **Governor Pat McCrory**, **N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla** and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) made the announcement December 16.

"Kinston and Lenoir County have created a destination for tourists interested in good food, skilled chefs, and craftsmen that create products drawn from local farms and natural ingredients," said **Governor McCrory**. "We applaud this community for attracting another company that supports community-based farming."

Social Beverage Company is a premium craft spirits producer dedicated to building a portfolio of lifestyle brands around a sense of community, innovation and responsible corporate citizenship. The company plans to revitalize a historic Kinston property to produce its signature farm-to-flask craft spirit, Social House Vodka. The distillery will adhere to rigorous standards for sourcing its essential ingredients from natural and organic farming, creating a gluten-free product made with North Carolina corn sourced within 50 miles of the facility.

"Social Beverage Company will add yet another flavor to the culinary scene in downtown Kinston, in addition to the jobs it will create," said **Secretary Skvarla**.

Those new jobs will include management, production and sales positions. Salaries for the new jobs vary by position, but the average annual salary will be \$50,071. The average wage in Lenoir County is \$33,142.

"North Carolina has created a welcoming environment for craft breweries and distilleries, and we are pleased to be a part of this growing industry in the state," said **Cary Joshi, president, Social Beverage Company**. "The relationships we've formed with local farmers, interest from the local community, and the emerging art, culinary and craft spirits scene in downtown Kinston, present the perfect foundation to establish our distillery as a gathering place."

In addition to [N.C. Commerce](#) and the [Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina](#), other partners that helped with this project include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the

at least \$36,028 per year. Overall annual wages in Greene County are currently \$26,997.

"Eastern North Carolina's moderate costs, excellent labor force and supportive business climate enable manufacturers like us to succeed and grow," said **company president F. H. "Buzz" Shackelford**. "We want to thank state and local officials who assisted our company as we planned for this expansion."

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant of up to \$50,000 from the One North Carolina Fund.

Numerous state and local partners worked with the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) and [N.C. Commerce](#) in supporting Home Elevator & Lift Products' expansion plans. They include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [N.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Greene County](#), the [Greene County Economic Development Commission](#), and the [Town of Snow Hill](#).

[Read more.](#)

Season's Greetings

North Carolina's economic development community should enjoy some well-deserved rest as another busy year of business and community development winds down.

N.C. Commerce will observe state holidays from Friday, December 23 through Tuesday, December 27. The department observes New Year's Day on Monday, January 2.

SYNC will return to your inbox on Tuesday, January 10. Season's Greetings!

N.C. in the News

- [NC grants \\$8.7M to more than 2 dozen projects from distilleries to poultry processors](#) (*News & Observer* - December 19)
- [The changing face of manufacturing](#) (*Thomasville Times* - December 14)
- [INC Research: adding 550 jobs, moving headquarters to Morrisville](#) (*4-traders.com* - December 13)
- [Broughton Hospital Property: Building reuse topic of meeting](#) (*The News Herald* - Morganton - December 13)
- [Gov. McCrory congratulates CVCC on expanded Furniture Academy](#) (*Hickory Daily Record* - December 8)

[North Carolina Community College System](#), the [N.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority](#), [Lenoir County](#), and the [City of Kinston](#).

[Read more.](#)

RIA Joins Golden LEAF in Announcing \$35M in Grants to Provide Infrastructure

N.C. Secretary of Commerce John E. Skvarla, III, Rural Infrastructure Authority Chairman Tommy Hester and Golden LEAF President Dan Gerlach announced December 15 approximately \$35 million in grants to provide needed infrastructure to seven large industrial sites across North Carolina. The goal is to increase site competitiveness and reduce the time needed for site development to attract major projects with substantial job creation and private capital investment.

"These funds are being applied strategically to make sites with the greatest job-generating potential as shovel-ready as possible," said **Commerce Secretary Skvarla**. "This additional infrastructure should significantly boost North Carolina's appeal for big-ticket projects."

Awards were derived from \$25 million in Golden LEAF grants and up to \$10 million in Rural Infrastructure Authority grants from the Industrial Development Fund - Utility Account. Duke Energy contributed support toward the analysis of readiness of sites to qualify for this initiative.

"The aim of the Utility Account is to help less populated counties modernize their industrial product," said **Tommy Hester, Rural Infrastructure Authority Chairman**. "These grants help put the finishing touches on big sites with big potential."

"Our Board recognizes the significant economic impact transformational projects can make on our state," said **Dan Gerlach, Golden LEAF President**. "This collaborative effort will help move the economic needle and improve North Carolina's competitive position."

A [complete list of the sites receiving funding](#) is available online.

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

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

Building Location:

301 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1058

Mailing Address:

4301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4301

[Unsubscribe](#) [Subscribe](#) feedback@nc-sync.com [SYNC archive](#)

© 2016 North Carolina Department of Commerce | SYNC® is a registered trademark of the N.C. Department of Commerce.
