



Governor McCrory Announces Textile Industry Innovator Will Bring 610 Jobs to Rutherford County

Governor Pat McCrory, North Carolina Commerce Secretary John E. Skvarla, III, and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) announced today (December 6) that Everest Textile USA will establish a 610-job manufacturing facility in Rutherford County. The Taiwan-based maker of high-performance sports apparel will invest \$18.5 million over five years at a site in Forest City.

"North Carolina's outstanding business climate offers great advantages to global manufacturers such as Everest Textiles," said Governor McCrory. "We are thrilled that this innovation-based textile company has selected our state and its tradition of high-quality manufacturing to build its presence in the Americas."

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

Everest Textiles USA is a unit of Everest Textile Co., Ltd., headquartered in Tainan City, Taiwan. Founded in 1988, the publicly-held parent company (TWSE: 1460) is a vertically integrated developer and supplier of innovative products to leading brands in sports, casual and other apparel. Its buyers



Snack Foods Leader to Add 100 Jobs in Mecklenburg County

Snyder's-Lance, the second largest maker of salty snacks in the United States will invest \$38 million over the coming three years at its Charlotte headquarters and production facility. The 100-job expansion was announced by Governor Pat McCrory on November 28.

"Snyder's-Lance is a leading name in North Carolina's food manufacturing industry and a prominent corporate headquarters," said Governor Pat McCrory. "North Carolina's talented workforce and competitive business climate will support the expansion of this international snack food provider."

The company's popular brands include Snyder's of Hanover, Lance, Kettle Brand, Emerald, and other brands. The company was formed by the 2010 merger of Lance Inc. and Snyder's of Hanover. Snyder's-Lance reported nearly \$1.7 billion in net revenue for 2015. It currently employs more than 1,200 people in North Carolina.

"You can't beat made in North Carolina products that are tasty snacks," said N.C. Commerce Secretary John Skvarla.

"Among the reasons we lead the Southeast in manufacturing employment are the 62,000 workers who make the consumer food and beverage industry a global player."

Snyder's-Lance intends to hire 70 workers for a new production line at its South Boulevard manufacturing plant and another 30 at its Ballantyne headquarters. Positions will range from machine operators and warehouse personnel to engineers and management. The company's expansion will add more than \$4.3 million in annual payroll impact to the local economy.

include names such as Nike, Columbia and Patagonia. Everest currently has factories in Taiwan, China and Thailand. Its Rutherford County plant will be its first outside Asia.

"North Carolina's outstanding workforce, moderate cost-structure and engaged community colleges put us on the short list for 21st century manufacturers of every kind," said **Secretary Skvarla**. "We have all the ingredients global companies need to succeed."

The company plans to employ operators, supervisors and an administrative team. Once fully operational, the facility will add nearly \$15.8 million annual payroll impact to the local economy.

"Everest positions itself as one of the leading global enterprises and commits to contribute to human society by providing innovative, environmentally friendly and comfortable textile products to the industry and consumers," said **Scott Chen, Corporate Vice President**. "There is still a long way for us to go and your continuous support is essential. Trust we will all work together to make it happen."

"As a native North Carolinian, it is exciting to see Everest Textile USA investing in the state and people of North Carolina, while also creating innovative products," said **Michael Chen, U.S. Legal Counsel to Everest Textile**. "This project will be a tremendous opportunity for all parties involved."

Everest's arrival in Rutherford County will be facilitated, in part, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG). The company will be eligible to receive just over \$3 million in total reimbursements, provided the company meets incremental job creation and investment targets.

In facilitating Everest Textile's announcement, [N.C. Commerce](#) and [EDPNC](#) worked with the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [NCWorks](#), [N.C. Environmental Quality](#), [Rutherford County](#), the [Town of Forest City](#), the [Rutherford County Economic Development Commission](#), [North Carolina State University](#), and the North Carolina Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce.

[Read more.](#)

Commerce Issues 2017 Economic Development Tier Rankings

The North Carolina Department of Commerce released the county tier designations for 2017 today. The designations, which are mandated by state law, play a role in several programs that assist in economic development.

Using a formula outlined in General Statue §143B-437.08, N.C. Commerce gathers required statistics for each of North Carolina's 100 counties, applies the formula and required adjustments, and assigns a tier designation ranking from one to three. Tier 1 counties are generally the most economically distressed and Tier 3 counties are generally the least economically distressed.

Ten counties will change tier designations for 2017. Cherokee, Mitchell, Person, and Yadkin counties will shift from a Tier 2 to a Tier 1 ranking. Guilford County will change from a Tier 3 to a Tier 2 ranking. Lenoir, Nash, Perquimans, and Rutherford counties will move from Tier 1 to Tier 2 counties. Haywood County will shift from Tier 2 to Tier 3.

"Snyder's-Lance has called North Carolina home for more than 100 years and we are proud to expand our operations here and continue to invest in the future growth of our great company," said **Carl Lee, President and Chief Executive Officer**. "North Carolina is a great place to do business and we appreciate the support of our city, county and state partners."

The project was made possible in part by a performance-based grant of up to \$100,000 from the One North Carolina Fund.

Numerous state and local allies worked with the [Economic Development Partnership of N.C.](#) and [N.C. Commerce](#) in supporting Snyder's-Lance's expansion plans. They include the [North Carolina General Assembly](#), the [North Carolina Community College System](#), [Mecklenburg County](#), the [City of Charlotte](#), and the [Charlotte Chamber of Commerce](#).

[Read more.](#)

Work for N.C. Commerce

The N.C. Main Street & Rural Planning Center and the state's Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) program are seeking candidates for four positions. The positions will be located in Cumberland, Jackson, Wilkes and Wilson counties. These new team members will work within the state's Prosperity Zones to proactively collaborate with leaders from counties, cities and towns on economic development projects.

More information can be found at the following links:

- [Cumberland County Opportunity](#)
- [Jackson County Opportunity](#)
- [Wilkes County Opportunity](#)
- [Wilson County Opportunity](#)

Hurricane Matthew Business Recovery Resources

Business owners impacted by Hurricane Matthew in North Carolina can easily access a growing number of resources designed to mitigate losses and speed recovery from one of the state's largest natural disasters.

The website summarizing this assistance can be found online at sbtcd.org/hurricanemathew.

N.C. in the News

- [Chinese manufacturers are setting up shop in the U.S.](#) (CNN Money -

More information and data about the 2017 tiers are available online at nccommerce.com.

November 30)

- [Tarboro hires new Main Street coordinator](#) (*Rocky Mount Telegram* - November 28)
- [Opinion: Louisiana Governor Edwards could help import pride from North Carolina elsewhere](#) (*BayouBuzz.com* - Louisiana - November 25)
- [Port Of Wilmington Looking To Boost Global Business](#) (*WilmingtonBiz* - November 22)

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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.](#)

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