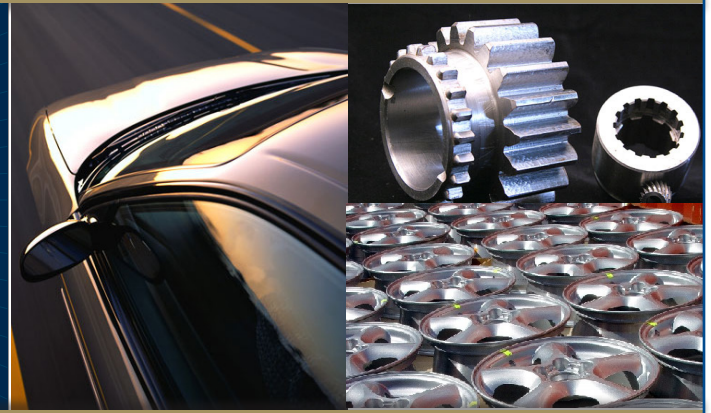


AUTOMOTIVE



From motorsports to automotive parts suppliers to fuel cell battery manufacturers of all sizes, the Charlotte region attracts industries that mean business. Charlotte USA leads the field as a major manufacturing and distribution hub at the center of North and South Carolina, and continues to diversify its economy as a prime location for corporate headquarters, manufacturing operations and high-technology companies.

FAST FACTS

- More than 42,000 workers in Charlotte USA are employed with approximately 500+ firms in the automotive industry
- Close proximity to major automotive assembly plants in the Southeast such as BMW, Daimler, Volvo, GM and Honda
- Major automotive supplier hub; largest employers include Daimler North America, Bosch, Dana Corporation, SPX, Continental, and Cataler
- More than 10,400 engineers employed throughout the region
- Lowest unionization rates in the U.S.
- Hybrid bus assembly plant, DesignLine, includes North American headquarters and manufacturing operations
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte offers a multidisciplinary program in Motorsports and Automotive Engineering
- Home to NASCAR, with over 90% of NASCAR race teams located within 50 miles of Charlotte, N.C. and the NASCAR Research & Development Center located in Concord, NC
- Location of the Richard Petty Driving Experience, one of the largest motorsports-related driving schools in the U.S.
- Rare combination of three wind tunnel facilities operating in the region
- Home of largest concentration of foreign-owned firms between Washington, DC and Atlanta has attracted the largest international community in the Carolinas

ACCESSIBILITY

- Distribution hub for the seventh-largest urban region in the U.S.
- Located midway on the East Coast between New York City and Miami
- 52% of the U.S. population and 62% of the industrial base located within 650 miles/1,000 kilometers of the Charlotte region
- World's 7th busiest airport - Charlotte-Douglas Int'l Airport (CLT)
- Non-stop direct service to over 140 cities, including daily direct service to Frankfurt, Munich, London, Toronto, Mexico City, Paris, Madrid, Rome, Dublin, Rio de Janeiro
- Served by three interstate highways (I-40, I-77, and I-85)
- Location of over 320 trucking companies in the Charlotte area

BUSINESS STRENGTH

- Second-largest financial center in the U.S.
- 8 Fortune 500 companies headquartered in the region
- Center of manufacturing in the Carolinas
- Among the top five U.S. cities in the expansion of existing businesses
- Top 10 automotive cluster

RECENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Automotive component maker, Schaeffler Group USA, will add 100 jobs and invest \$10 million in their Chesterfield County manufacturing facility
- Continental Tire The Americas, a German-based tire manufacturer with its North American headquarters based in the Charlotte region, announces 80 new jobs at its Lancaster County, SC facility
- Sennebogen, a German manufacturer, will double the size of its Lincoln County facility and invest \$3 million.
- Camber Ridge, a consortium of auto and motorsports companies that committed to finance a tire testing facility, will fund a new R&D project that will serve the needs of industry as new federal electronic stability control requirements hit in 2011
- Celgard, a battery parts manufacturer for electric vehicles, announces 200+ new jobs as part of \$100 million expansion at facilities in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties
- SABO USA recently tripled size of its manufacturing facility to meet production demands from GM, Daimler and Chrysler
- Hof Textiles, a leading producer of nonwoven fabrics for the automotive industry, expanded its Lincolnton, N.C. facility, investing \$1.5 million and adding 16 employees.

AUTOMOTIVE

STRENGTH OF AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY CHAIN

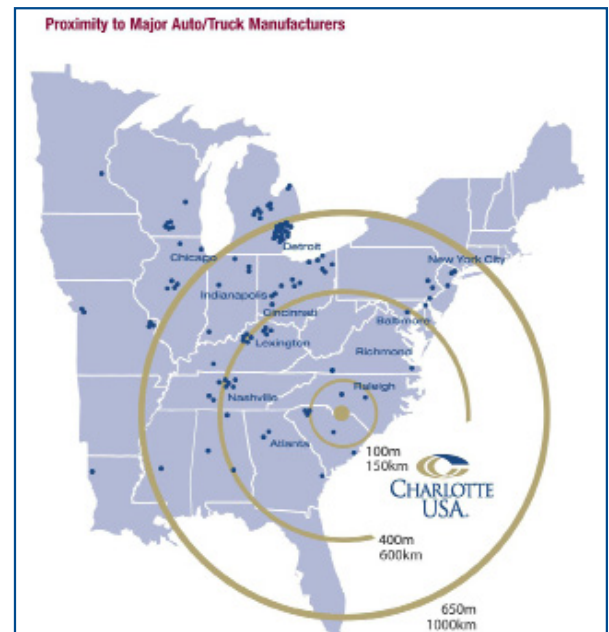
- Nearly 450 automotive, truck and parts manufacturers operating in the Charlotte region
- BMW's only U.S. assembly plant located 75 miles south of Charlotte, NC
- Over 10,000 engineers employed in the Charlotte region; center of seven major engineering universities means access to young, educated workforce

UNC CHARLOTTE AUTOMOTIVE & MOTORSPORTS ENGINEERING

- Nearly 300 degrees awarded annually
- Specializing in vehicle dynamics, aerodynamics, instrumentation, safety and metrology
- Program has developed more than \$2.25 million in external research related to vehicle technologies
- Onsite equipment includes: chassis dyno, shock dyno, engine dyno, scales and Pi/CDS Data Acquisition

CHARLOTTE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

- Center for Precision Metrology recognized as National Science Foundation Center of Excellence in New Industry Collaboration and Nanoscale Science & Engineering
 - Attracting companies such as Caterpillar, Mitutoyo and Boeing
- Center for Optoelectronics and Optical Communications's research areas include design and fabrication of photonic devices, integrated optical circuitry, assembly and packaging of optical systems and methods for precision optical metrology



AUTOMOTIVE R&D ASSETS

- NC Motorsports & Automotive Research Center
- Three wind tunnel facilities
- Underwater tunnel testing facility
- NASCAR Research & Development Center
- NASCAR Technical Institute
- Polymers Center of Excellence

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Home to NFL's Carolina Panthers, NBA's Charlotte Bobcats, AAA baseball's Charlotte Knights, ECHL's Charlotte Checkers, the PGA TOUR's Quail Hollow Championship, and three NASCAR Cup series events
- Cultural emphasis on the arts and sciences
- 37 colleges and universities
- Over 100 public and private golf courses
- More than 1,770 miles of lake shoreline
- Average annual temperature: 61°F/16°C
- Average annual days of sunshine: 214



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

- *Charlotte #5 among America's Fastest Growing Cities (Forbes, 2013)*
- *North Carolina #2 and South Carolina #5 among Best Business Climate (Site Selection Magazine, Executive Survey, 2012)*
- *North Carolina #3 and South Carolina #7 among Best States for Business (Chief Executive Magazine, 2012)*
- *South Carolina #2 Auto Manufacturing Strength (Area Development Magazine, 2012)*
- *North Carolina #4 America's Top 5 States for Business (CNBC, 2012)*

A nonprofit, public/private economic development organization, the Charlotte Regional Partnership offers site location assistance, customized research and introductions to key industry resources across its 16-county, two-state region. The Partnership's services are free of charge to business prospects considering Charlotte USA, an area of 2.6 million people.

For more information, call 800.544.4373 or 704.347.8942 | charlotteusa.com

