

PLASTICS



The Charlotte region continues to strengthen its position as one of the most dynamic and diversified locations in North America. This 16-county region – 12 in North Carolina and four in South Carolina – is home to more than 900 foreign-owned firms, nine Fortune 500 company headquarters and a growing population of more than 2.7 million residents

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 17,000 workers are employed in the plastics industry within the Charlotte region
- More than 580 plastics companies have facilities within the Charlotte region
- Industry-driven services available through University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Polymers Center of Excellence, including research and development, testing, workforce development and process problem solving

POLYMERS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE - UNC CHARLOTTE

Mission: To provide local expertise that will enable local plastics firms to reduce costs, increase productivity, expand market share and shorten time to market

Services offered:

- Specialized training for companies that purchase, process, design, develop or manufacture products using plastics or rubber, including:
 - Extrusion/Compounding
 - Injection Molding
 - Process Troubleshooting
 - Materials Testing
 - Design Engineering
- Workforce training offered at your plant site or at the Center, designed to provide timely, cost-effective technical support tailored to local companies' needs
- Sponsored seminars for topics important to the plastics industry



UNPARALLELED ACCESSIBILITY

- 62% of the U.S. industrial base and more than 52% of the U.S. population is accessible within 650 miles/1,000 kilometers of Charlotte USA
- Served by four major interstate highways (I-40, I-77, I-485, I-85)
- Direct flights to more than 130+ destinations and daily international flights to Munich, Frankfurt, London, Toronto, Paris, Rome, Montreal, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Madrid and Dublin among others
- Charlotte Douglas is the 6th busiest airport in the world.
- Within 200 miles of three major seaports, including the 2nd largest on the eastern coast of the U.S. – Charleston, SC
- Major intermodal facility opening at Charlotte Douglas in 2013
- Served by CSX, Norfolk Southern and three short-line railroads

RECENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Company	Product	Initial Investment	Jobs	Date	County
Ring Container Technologies	Plastic container manufacturer	\$7.9 million	18	2012	Chester
Rochling Engineering Plastics	Plastic processing equipment	\$4 million	160	2012	Gaston
AptarGroup	Plastic valves and pumps	\$50 million	150	2011	Lincoln
Lanxess	Plastics, Rubber & Chemicals	\$15 million	55	2011	Gaston
REPI	Liquid Colors & Additives	\$5.8 million	27	2011	Gaston
Composite Resources	Polymer Products	\$3.5 million	50	2010	York
Wilbert Plastic Services	HQ/Molded Plastics	\$5.7 million	41	2010	Gaston
Boral Composites	Building Materials	\$12.8 million	25	2010	Rowan
Paragon Films	Plastic Film	\$14 million	15	2009	Alexander

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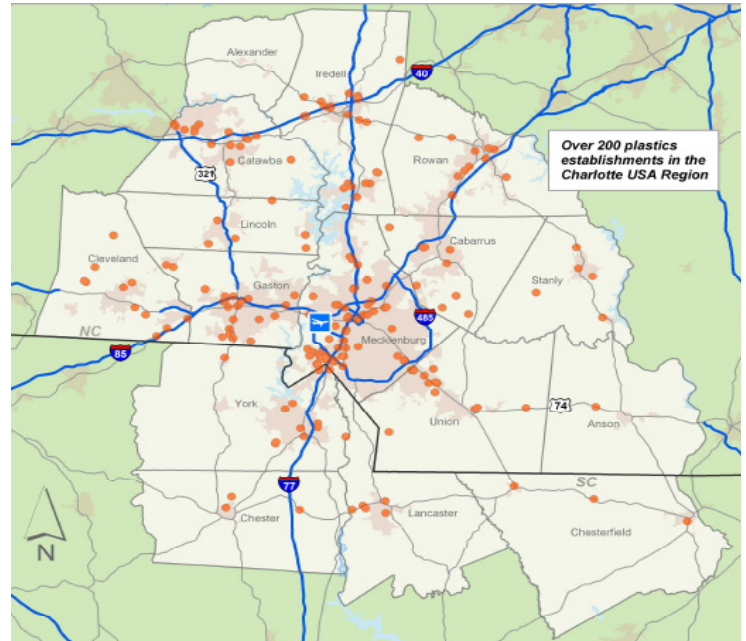
GROWING AND TALENTED WORKFORCE

- North Carolina (2.9%) and South Carolina (3.4%) have the first and second lowest percentage of unionized workers, respectively, in the U.S. (BLS, 2011)
- Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord MSA ranked 4th fastest growing metro area in the nation since 2000 (Census)
- The Charlotte region is home to 11 community and technical colleges with customized workforce development programs
- Talented pool of graduates from Polymers Center for Excellence, a technical and applied research based program originally jointly formed through University of North Carolina at Charlotte and NC Industrial Extension Service. Curriculum includes:
 - Choosing the Right Plastic
 - How to Design a Plastic Part
 - Plastic Additives
 - Thermoforming
 - Injection Molding
 - Extrusion
 - OSHA Safety Course for Plastics

COMPETITIVE BUSINESS COSTS

- State and local tax incentives for job creation and capital investment
- State and local infrastructure development incentives
- Average asking lease rate (\$/sf/yr) in the region is \$4.60 for industrial space (CBRE, 2012Q2)
- NC and SC both \$0.50 or more below the US average cost for industrial electricity (EIA 2011)

CHARLOTTE USA PLASTICS INDUSTRY



PLASTIC INDUSTRY WAGE COMPARISON	CNC Programmers	Extruding and Drawing	Molding and Casting	Heat Treating	Plating and Coating
SOC Code	51-4012	51-4021	51-4072	51-4191	51-4193
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord MSA	\$19.58	\$15.78	\$13.73	\$14.66	\$13.94
Jacksonville MSA	N/A	\$13.28	\$16.25	\$16.53	\$18.88
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta MSA	\$19.69	\$15.72	\$14.48	\$14.11	\$17.43
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor MSA	\$20.21	\$19.53	\$13.55	\$13.59	\$11.58
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington MSA	\$26.96	\$17.94	\$14.22	\$16.43	\$13.65
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet MSA	\$18.98	\$15.31	\$16.93	\$16.31	\$12.67
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy MSA	\$22.67	N/A	\$14.74	\$15.35	\$14.79

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics OES 2011 - median hourly wage

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS CLIMATE

- North Carolina ranked 1st (9 times in 10 years) and South Carolina 5th on Site Selection's Best Business Climate Ranking (2010)
- South Carolina ranked 3rd, North Carolina ranked 8th on Area Development's Top 10 States for Doing Business (2011)
- North Carolina was 2nd and South Carolina 8th Best States for Business in a survey of CEO's by Chief Executive magazine (2011)
- South Carolina ranked 4th, North Carolina ranked 5th on Pollina Corporate Real Estate's Top 10 Pro-Business States (2010)

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 2.7 million people.

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

