

**From:** [marketing@sccommerce.com](mailto:marketing@sccommerce.com) <[marketing@sccommerce.com](mailto:marketing@sccommerce.com)>  
**To:** [Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov](mailto:Veldran,KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov)  
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January 24, 2014

South Carolina has proven its place as a manufacturing powerhouse - outpacing our neighboring states in manufacturing GDP as one of the nation's fastest-growing economies. In 2013, we built on this track record, and continued to diversify our development strategy, with focus on technology and innovation, life sciences and logistics-related fields to further enhance our competitive position.

Major announcements from world-class companies like Boeing, Google, Michelin North America and Colgate-Palmolive helped drive our state to net a record level of capital investment last year. From January to December 2013, the Palmetto State closed 127 economic development projects, infusing \$5.4 billion into the state's economy and recruiting more than 15,000 new jobs to our workforce.

Further reinforcing South Carolina's manufacturing stronghold, the state's manufacturing sector created more than 60 percent of the new jobs and 82 percent of the capital investment that Commerce recruited last year.

Best described in the words of the famous Frank Sinatra song, "*It Was a Very Good Year*" in South Carolina in 2013. And as we settle into 2014, we are committed to continue moving the state forward, attracting investment and adding new jobs to the state's economy.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

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## Spotlight: Small Business in South Carolina

In South Carolina, small business is big business. More than 530,000 South Carolinians are employed by companies with fewer than 50

## Just Announced

**South Carolina** nets record recruitment year at \$5.4 billion in capital investment.

[Read more](#)

**Baldor Electric Company** is expanding its Anderson County manufacturing facility.

[Read more](#)

**Kent International Inc.** to bring South Carolina-made bicycles to Walmart.

[Read more](#)

**Sandvik, Inc** announces \$12 million expansion in Oconee County.

[Read more](#)

## Upcoming Events

S.C. Automotive Summit

South Carolina Supply

workers, and small business employers make up more than 95 percent of all private employers in the Palmetto State.

The growing number of small businesses in South Carolina are supported by strong state programs like: [BuySC](#), a supplier database program that matches companies with existing business opportunities; the [SCBizNetwork](#), an interactive website offering 24/7 support to small businesses; as well as various supplier outreach events that connect small businesses with big businesses.

Through a myriad of programs and support initiatives, the Palmetto State continues to prove it is just right for small business success.

Chain Summit

South Carolina TDL Summit

Creating an Export Management Compliance Program

South Carolina Rural Summit

## Newsmakers

S.C. Commerce Department: 2013 a record for recruitment

Boeing led South Carolina in new investments in 2013

In upstate S.C., BMW jobs replace textile mills

Sonoco Dedicates \$75 Million Biomass Boiler Facility

New battery designed at Clemson, could be revolutionary

Michelin program to help more businesses grow

Walmart announces fund to support U.S. manufacturing

South Carolina awards \$360,000 to local groups to create jobs and micro-businesses

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## Commerce Capture: Ever-Green Recycling

**Ever-Green Recycling** is a local "Ecopreneurial" business started by Elizabeth Garrison nearly eight years ago. Ever-

Green was born out of Garrison's desire to create a system that would make recycling easier for businesses in the upstate.

Since its inception in 2007, the company has grown to include various vehicles and staff and specializes in commercial recycling for offices and restaurants in the Upstate.

The company has received an Integrity Award from the Better Business Bureau and was named *Best Recycling Program* by the S.C. Department of Commerce.

South Carolina Department of Commerce  
(803) 737-0400 | [marketing@sccommerce.com](mailto:marketing@sccommerce.com)  
1201 Main Street, Suite 1600 | Columbia, SC 29201  
[www.SCcommerce.com](http://www.SCcommerce.com)

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South Carolina Dept. Of Commerce | 1201 Main Street, Suite 1600 | Columbia | SC | 29201