

**From:** South Carolina Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>  
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April 25, 2014

South Carolina's aviation industry is experiencing what can best be described as a 'Boeing Boost.' Since the world-class manufacturer decided to locate in North Charleston in 2009, our state has seen significant growth in the aerospace sector. Similar to BMW, Boeing is not only generating billions in investment and adding thousands of jobs to the state economy, but it's presence in South Carolina is also propelling the state's smaller businesses to success.

According to a recent report by **Avalanche Consulting of Texas**, South Carolina ranks first in the nation for aerospace job growth - surging by an astounding 613 percent in the last five years. This boost to the state's workforce can be directly linked to Boeing's presence as an anchor in the aerospace sector.

Today, there are more than 200 companies represented in the Palmetto State's aerospace industry, and the list continues to grow. We are charting our own course, continuing to build our global reputation as a state that is just right for flight.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

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## Just Announced

**Medac Inc.** plans to establish its headquarters in Aiken County. The \$12 million investment is expected bring 615 jobs to the area.

**[Read More](#)**

**UC Synergetic** is locating its headquarters in York County. The \$2.2 million investment is expected to bring 130 jobs.

**[Read More](#)**

**Aerial Options** is expanding in Marion

## Spotlight: Tourism Industry

From the beauty of South Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains to the breathtaking coastline, tourism is at the center of the state's economic development, generating more than \$18 billion annually.

Tourism means business in South Carolina. One in 10 jobs within the Palmetto State is tourism-related. Nearly a third of food and beverage business comes from tourism, and hotels, airports, amusement parks and recreation venues depend almost entirely on tourism for most of their annual sales. In 2012, South Carolina-manufactured goods consumed by the tourism industry generated more than \$3.2 billion in sales. **(2012 South Carolina Department of Tourism Report)**

The strength of the state's tourism industry is vital to South Carolina's economic development and sustainability. It is an industry that not only generates revenue, but invites people to experience the mix of natural beauty, hometown charm and world-class attractions that is South Carolina.

*Photo Caption: **Myrtle Beach State Park**, courtesy of the **South Carolina Department of Parks and Recreation***

County. The company's \$410,000 investment is expected to create 13 new jobs.  
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## Upcoming Events

**[2014 SC Clean Energy Summit](#)**

**[SEUS-CP Conference](#)**

**[Salute to Small Business](#)**

**[Full Calendar of Business Events](#)**

## Newsmakers

**[Hitt: S.C. the beast of the Southeast](#)**

**[State economic growth riding wave of momentum](#)**

**[SCRA's economic impact on state \\$1.35 billion in 2013](#)**

**[Federal tax credit to aid new Graniteville recycling plant](#)**

**[New trade deals may open doors for S.C](#)**

**[Devro Inc. expands in Calhoun County while Bamberg County welcomes Masonite](#)**

**[Boeing 787 production on track to meet goal this year](#)**

**[Milliken expanding SC plant for additional PP clarifying agent](#)**

## Commerce Capture: Lockheed Martin

Leading aerospace manufacturer, **Lockheed Martin**, has been building planes in South Carolina for more than three decades. In 1984, the company established its Greenville Operations in the South Carolina Technology and Aviation Center facility in Greenville, S.C. Today the company's Greenville facility employs about 1,100 workers repairing military aircraft, including the Air Force's C-130 Hercules transport and the Navy's P-3 Orion.

In 2013, Lockheed Martin was awarded a \$16.5 million defense contract to build large aircraft infrared countermeasures kits. The company will fulfill part of the contract at its South Carolina location.

*Photo courtesy of **Lockheed Martin***

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