

From: South Carolina Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>
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Subject: Existing Industry Thriving in South Carolina

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December 19, 2014

It's no secret that South Carolina is enjoying a period of unprecedented economic success. Since 2011, we've announced more than 58,000 new jobs and \$14.5 billion in capital investment. While the recruitment of new business to the state has been vital to this success, the expansions of our existing industry truly represent the backbone of our economic prosperity.

As existing companies grow and succeed, we are able to promote their achievements around the world, spreading the message that the Palmetto State is *'Just right'* for business. Last week alone, two of South Carolina's existing firms - [Hubner Manufacturing Corporation](#) and [Mankiewicz Coatings, LLC](#) - announced expansions in the Lowcountry. Collectively, the firms are investing more than \$23 million to add 65 new jobs to their existing operations.

Success stories like these allow us to showcase what we all know - businesses are thriving in South Carolina. As we continue to recruit new industry to our state, we celebrate those that are already here investing in our communities, employing our citizens and, in doing so, are contributing to our economic success.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

Spotlight: Certified Sites in South Carolina

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As South Carolina's recruitment efforts continue to grow, the availability of suitable, project-ready industrial sites remains imperative. When going through the selection process, companies often weigh several location options before making their final decision. Thus, it's critical for our economic development efforts that we exceed our competitors by offering sites that are ready to go and that reduce a company's risk.

Recognizing this, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, with the help of McCallum Sweeney Consulting, has made significant improvements to its existing Industrial Site Certification Program to address the start-up demands of the manufacturing industry and mirror their site selection process. The program provides prospects with comprehensive site data that addresses the availability, the develop-ability and the serve-ability of a property and can save a prospect six months or more on their start-up schedule. To search Certified Sites, visit LocateSC.com. For more information on the site certification program, visit the [Site Certification Manual](#) on the Publications Directory within sccommerce.com.

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Commerce Capture: Charleston County's Holiday Festival of Lights

As a South Carolina Lowcountry tradition, Charleston County's Holiday Festival of Lights has been delighting visitors for decades. From a light replica of the iconic Arthur Ravenel, Jr. Bridge to a multitude of illuminated palmetto and oak trees, the festival blends holiday cheer with a Lowcountry twist. Featuring more than 700 displays and approximately two million lights, the tradition is one of the largest in the state. The event is experienced on a three-mile driving track at James Island Courthouse, open through January 1. For more information on Charleston County's Holiday Festival of Lights, visit www.ccprc.com

Photo courtesy of [Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission](#).

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