

From: South Carolina Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>
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Subject: Commerce Communications: South Carolina's Track Record of Success

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June 12, 2015

Vince Lombardi famously said, "Winning is habit," referring to the importance of consistently doing the right things. Whether it be our acquisition of the "Beast of the Southeast" moniker or the dozens of awards and accolades we've received, South Carolina's pro-business reputation continues to travel far and wide, spreading the message that the Palmetto State is 'Just right' for business.

Last week, [Area Development](#) magazine, a leading national economic development publication, once again [awarded South Carolina with a Gold Shovel](#). This award is bestowed upon states that created a significant number of high-value-added new jobs and investment during the previous year. Additionally, Giti Tire's Chester County investment was recognized as one of the magazine's "Projects of the Year."

Team South Carolina has also been making waves on the innovation front. This week, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation [released its annual](#) startup activity index. Ranked No. 29, the Palmetto State saw the biggest year-over-year increase of any state, jumping 17 spots from last year's ranking.

It's no secret that companies prefer to do business where there is a track record of success. Thanks to the efforts of Team South Carolina, we've been able to amass a remarkable track record, cultivating a momentum that continues to attract industry and investment from all corners of the globe.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

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Spotlight: Forestry Industry in South Carolina

South Carolina's abundant forests provide locally grown raw materials that supplement an industry that makes up one of the largest economic sectors in the state. Covering 13.1 million acres, the Palmetto State's forests span over 68% of our state's total land area and contain our #1 harvested crop, timber.

As the industry continues to prosper, well-known, forestry-dependent companies like Portucel, Canfor, and MeadWestvaco have all established or expanded their presence in South Carolina over the past two years.

And while our forests reach far and wide physically, their economic impact is wide-reaching as well. With an annual impact of \$17 billion, South Carolina's forestry industry is ever important to our economy. In a state with a variety of manufacturing sectors represented, the forestry industry employs the most per industry, sustaining over 90,000 jobs in the Palmetto State. This is truly an industry South Carolina wants to ensure keeps on growing.

Photo courtesy of: the [South Carolina Forestry Commission](#).

Commerce Capture: Spoleto Festival USA 2015 Concludes

Last Sunday, [Spoleto Festival USA 2015 concluded with a finale celebration](#) at Charleston's historic Middleton Place p

milestone in the festival's history, this year's event was the City of Charleston's final under Mayor Joe Riley's leadership. In 1977, less than two years after Mayor Riley first took office, the annual festival fills Charleston's historic theaters, churches and outdoor spaces with performances from a variety of renowned artists and emerging performers in opera, theater, and dance, as chamber, symphonic, choral and jazz music.

Photos courtesy of: Spoleto Festival USA 2015.

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