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December 6, 2018

COMMERCE COMMUNICATIONS

Young people in today's South Carolina grew up never knowing of a time before globally-recognized industry leaders called the Palmetto State home. Over the last few decades, companies like Michelin and BMW took a leap of faith and made the decision to establish operations within our borders. As a result, an advanced manufacturing industry was born, and a truly high-tech economy emerged.

Whether it was out of necessity, as our manufacturers worked hard to remain on the cutting edge of technological advances, or simply a product of South Carolina's rising profile on the international business stage, one thing is certain -- the Palmetto State has become a major player in the global technology industry. Just this week, artificial intelligence firm DeepBD announced new operations in the Lowcountry. And, earlier this fall, Green Cloud Technologies announced a new headquarters facility in the Upstate. These types of announcements are a major reason why South Carolina's net tech employment growth rate ranked 11th in the nation last year.

Moving forward, we know that businesses don't sit still. They're constantly changing and evolving. As a state, we're committed to doing all we can to remain at the forefront of technological advancement, ensuring prosperity across South Carolina for many years to come.

Bobby Hitt,
Secretary of Commerce

NEWS IN EXISTING INDUSTRY

Automotive Supplier Matchmaker Scheduled for February

It's often said that major industries are like the oak trees that populate our state. As they thrive and expand, many things can develop and grow in their drip lines. This has certainly been the case with South Carolina's robust automotive industry.

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NEWS IN INNOVATION

Innovation Grant Opens Pitch Lab to Innovators From Across S.C.

Earlier this year, the S.C. Commerce Office of Innovation announced more than \$719,000 in grant awards to nine organizations across the state as part of its Startup Fuel Challenge Grant Series. One of the awardees -- Venture Carolina -- used the funds to establish the Venture Carolina Pitch Lab.

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Just Announced

Agtruss, Inc.

is expanding operations in Lee County. The company is investing \$2.8 million to create 25 new jobs.

[Read more](#)

Blue Sky Processing

is locating operations in Beaufort County. The company is investing \$2.5 million to create 16 new jobs.

[Read more](#)

Bosch

is expanding operations in Anderson County. The company is investing \$45 million in the project.

[Read more](#)

DeepBD

is launching operations in Charleston County. The company is investing \$1.6 million to create 30 jobs.

[Read more](#)

DRÄXLMAIER Group

has completed an expansion in Spartanburg County. The \$42.7 million investment is creating 460 new jobs.

[Read more](#)

Sundaram-Clayton Ltd.

is expanding operations in Dorchester County. The company is investing \$40 million to create 100 jobs.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events

January 25, 2019

In partnership with the Office of U.S. Senator Tim Scott and the Council of Development Finance Agencies, the state of South Carolina is hosting a Governor's Opportunity Zones Summit .

[Register](#)

April 29-May 2, 2019

S.C. Commerce is leading a trade mission to Canada . Companies that are approved to attend will have one-on-one meetings with prospective distributors, agents and partners.

[Register](#)

May 6-13, 2019

This May, S.C. Commerce is participating in the U.S. Commercial Service Trade Winds Indo-Pacific mission and business forum . The trip will include visits to India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

[Register](#)

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