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**Date:** 8/9/2013 2:52:19 PM  
**Subject:** You are cleared to land in South Carolina

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August 9, 2013

## You are cleared to land in South Carolina

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South Carolina is becoming known globally as a leader in the aerospace industry. We've earned our reputation. For 20 years, BMW has helped to rev up the state's automotive industry, and now Boeing is fueling the state's aerospace and aviation sector.

From top companies like Boeing, Lockheed Martin and GKN finding success inside South Carolina's borders, to developing the state's first aerospace task force, our state continues to prove we are on the cutting edge of an ever-growing industry.

Recently, South Carolina's aviation sector got another boost, with the debut of the state's aerospace website. I invite you to read more about how the state is mapping its own course in aviation, in this week's newsletter editorial from S.C. Aerospace Task Force Director, Charlie Farrell.

- Secretary Bobby Hitt

**"You are cleared to land in South Carolina"** is more than instructions to an F-16 or Dreamliner on final approach. It is about businesses being cleared to land in South Carolina, and the families that accompany them. It is also a reminder of the 200 aerospace companies and 23,000 professional men and women who have already landed and are proud to call South Carolina home.

We are evolving, much like BMW did, from a state doing aviation business, to a state building an aerospace ecosystem. We discovered at the Paris Air Show that our global reputation has really taken off, pun intended.

Please check out our new website, [www.scaerospace.com](http://www.scaerospace.com), and watch our interesting and informative two minute video spearheaded by our creative communications team and community partners.

We hope if you are reading this from a faraway place that someday soon you will hear, **"You are cleared to land in South Carolina"**. We are confident your response will be, **"I am glad to be home."**

-Charlie Farrell  
S.C. Aerospace Task Force Director

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SBA expands pilot lending program statewide

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CU-ICAR unveils Mazda concept vehicle

Williamsburg Technical College receives Duke Energy grant

SCE&G showing off nuclear plant construction

Amy Love, Director  
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## SC Commerce grants awarded for improvements to 24 South Carolina communities

The South Carolina Department of Commerce is awarding nearly \$10 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. More than 11,800 residents in 24 communities across South Carolina will benefit from the grant improvement projects.

"The CDBG program consistently has a positive impact on South Carolina's communities," said Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt. "The program provides funding for community development, stronger infrastructure and improvements to state residents' quality of life. This helps all aspects of South Carolina's success, including business recruitment and jobs."

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## Laurens County becomes certified Work Ready Community

*One of three certified counties in South Carolina*

Laurens County is a certified Work Ready Community. The county, is one of three in the state to receive this designation from ACT, a leader in college and career readiness. McCormick and Clarendon Counties have also achieved the Work Ready Community designation.

More than 1,000 Laurens County residents have completed the National Career Readiness Certificate assessment. The certificate measures work discipline, teamwork, managerial potential and customer service orientation in conjunction to core job skills.

South Carolina is one of four states to participate in the Work Ready Community pilot program.

For more information on South Carolina's Work Ready Community efforts visit <http://workreadycommunities.org/SC>



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