

From: South Carolina Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>
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Subject: Commerce Communications: Making the Grade in South Carolina

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July 8, 2016

If you haven't done your homework, you're probably going to come in second. However, as we all know, Team South Carolina likes coming in first -- and that's just what we've been doing. Since 2011, we've recruited approximately 90,000 new jobs and nearly \$25 billion in capital investment. On top of that, we've built a reputation as a state that's leading the way in advanced manufacturing. In [a report released last month](#), South Carolina was one of only five states to receive an 'A' grade for the health of its manufacturing industry.

So, what's the driving force behind all of this success? Our team works constantly to put South Carolina in a position to win. From significant investments in our infrastructure, including the all-important Charleston Harbor deepening project, to our ongoing workforce development efforts, we continue to lay the foundation for future prosperity. In fact, just this week, the Palmetto State became the first in the nation to have all of its counties [certified Work Ready](#).

Moving forward, our team will keep doing its homework and preparing for success. And, as a result, we'll continue to make the grade in South Carolina, attracting industry and creating opportunities in all corners of our great state.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

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Spotlight: Disaster Business Reentry

When a disaster strikes, restoring the local economy afterward is one of the most important challenges facing a community. In order to facilitate commercial access in the aftermath of a disaster, the South Carolina Emergency Management Division is implementing a new plan to speed up economic recovery.

Just recently, Governor Haley signed into law a new measure that provides a system for post-disaster reentry certification for commercial businesses and entities that assist in the restoration of utilities. Under this new law, a registered business or utility that is certified by the South Carolina Emergency Management Division will be allowed to reenter or remain in a curfew area for the purpose of transporting goods or services. To register your business now, visit the [SCEMD website](#) for more information.

Time and time again, South Carolina and its communities have proven to be resilient. With this new, streamlined registration system, businesses and utility providers can get back on their feet and help communities all over this state recover quicker than ever.

Photo courtesy of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division.

Commerce Capture: Charleston Named 'Best City in the World'

This week, Travel + Leisure magazine announced its annual [World's Best City rankings](#). Claiming the top spot in the pr Charleston, S.C. Marking the first time a U.S. destination has ever received the honor, this recognition adds to a grow bestowed upon South Carolina communities.

Photo courtesy of the Charleston Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

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