

From: South Carolina Department of Commerce <marketing@sccommerce.com>
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Date: 1/22/2016 2:33:15 PM
Subject: Commerce Communications: Making Advanced Materials in South Carolina

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January 22, 2016

Author H.G. Wells once wrote, "Adapt or perish, now as ever, is nature's inexorable imperative." This quote perfectly describes one of the most important qualities any successful business organization must possess -- the ability to change. To prosper as a state, we must also be able to adapt to the ever-changing business landscape. A perfect example of South Carolina's adaptable spirit is the transformation of our state into an advanced manufacturing leader.

At one time, South Carolina was known primarily as a textile state. While we still boast a significant textile industry, the manufacturing of advanced products and materials has shifted our economy into high gear. This week, one of our state's newest advanced materials manufacturers -- Toray Industries -- broke ground on its \$1 billion carbon fiber plant. Representing one of the largest initial capital investments in South Carolina history, Toray's facility is just one example of how the advanced materials industry has revolutionized our economy.

In the Palmetto State, we are winners because of our ability to adapt to the constantly changing business climate. Whether it be textiles, automobiles, planes or carbon fiber, the people of this state have proven that they are versatile and can flawlessly produce a diverse group of the world's top products.

Bobby Hitt, Secretary of Commerce

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Spotlight: South Carolina-Israel Collaboration

For Team South Carolina, strengthening relationships with international partners continues to be a critical component of our economic development strategy. As such, the [South Carolina-Israel Collaboration](#) is an extremely important initiative, stimulating business and research partnerships between companies and universities in South Carolina and Israel.

Since 2013, Israel-based companies have announced nearly \$9 million in capital investment, bringing more than 140 new jobs to our state. And, in recent years, the country has expanded on its role as one of South Carolina's international trade partners. In 2014, Israel accounted for more than \$120 million of South Carolina's total export sales, a 22 percent increase over the previous year.

To build on this success, the South Carolina-Israel Collaboration coordinates missions to Israel, like the 5th Annual South Carolina Business & Research Mission taking place this week. Giving attendees the opportunity to meet potential customers and strategic partners, as well as explore opportunities for trade and investment, the trip will help build on already strong relationships and encourage even more economic growth within our borders.

Photo courtesy of the [South Carolina-Israel Collaboration](#).

This week, [Toray Industries](#) officially broke ground on its Upstate carbon fiber manufacturing plant. Located in Moore Spartanburg County facility is expected to create 500 new jobs in the coming years. [Announced in February 2014](#), the a more than \$1 billion investment in the project.

Photo courtesy of the [South Carolina Office of the Governor](#).

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