

From: Department of Commerce <marketing=sccommerce.com@mail8.us1.mcsv.net>
To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov
Date: 2/1/2013 1:48:02 PM
Subject: Tourism and Commerce are linked to South Carolina's economy

February 1, 2013

Governor, Commerce to host 23rd annual Rural Summit in Aiken this March

When BMW decided to set up shop in our state over 20 years ago, there were many positives about South Carolina that factored into their decision: our top-notch workforce, business friendly climate and prime location, just to name a few.

However, a moment of southern hospitality at a small pizza parlor ultimately helped to seal the deal. That's right! Executives of the automotive giant decided to call South Carolina home, in part because a waitress in a pizza parlor was nice to them. By showcasing the true spirit of South Carolina, this waitress helped turn visitors into residents. Hospitality and commerce are key to South Carolina's economic development.

This week, during the Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism, I participated in a panel discussion about the importance of the cooperation between our state's two biggest business agencies. Each year, South Carolina's Tourism and Commerce Departments generate billions of dollars in revenue for our state and create thousands of jobs. The benefits of our success bring success to every area of the state, from our beaches to our

Governor Nikki Haley and the South Carolina Department of Commerce will host rural and economic development leaders from across South Carolina next month for the 23rd annual South Carolina Rural Summit, presenting a program that will challenge attendees to improve local communities. The Summit will be held at the Municipal Center, located at 214 Park Avenue SE, in Aiken on Monday, March 4, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

"Rural communities across our state play an important role in South Carolina's economic success. The Rural Summit provides a chance for local leaders to come together and share ideas about how to make their communities more competitive in attracting investment," said Gov. Nikki Haley.

READ ENTIRE PRESS RELEASE

**Knowledge is power
in South Carolina**
*Duke Energy gives \$4 million grant to
support workforce development*

boardrooms.

There is an old Lowcountry saying that “every frog must praise his own pond.” This week, we celebrated our corner of the world, and showcased what is just right about our state and why our southern hospitality is second to none.

-Secretary Bobby Hitt

Commerce Newsroom

Find recent jobs and investment announcements here

Upcoming Seminars & Workshops

Career Fair at Williamsburg Technical College

Harmonized Tariff Systems Workshop

Webmarketing Your Export Business

SpeedNews Aerospace Manufacturing Conference

The 2013 Rural Summit and Photo Contest

South Carolina Supply Chain Summit

News Makers

State tourism, commerce departments boost cooperation

As part of its commitment to bolster South Carolina’s manufacturing base, [Duke Energy](#) will fund workforce development initiatives in the

state to help provide a next-generation workforce in key cluster areas. These initiatives will advance economic development and enhance employment opportunities for South Carolinians, thereby providing industry with a highly qualified pool of employees. Duke will fund the [Clemson University Center for Workforce Development](#) with a \$4.11 million grant.

Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt said, “Workforce development is about getting it just right: the right skills for jobs at the right time. In order for South Carolina to continue to be a national leader in advanced manufacturing and create a friendly business climate, we must close the gap between our workforce skills and business needs.”

[READ ENTIRE PRESS RELEASE](#)

South Carolina Capital Market Study now available

The *South Carolina Capital Market Study* is now available. The study, prepared by USC Faber Entrepreneurship Center and commissioned by New Carolina, uses input from the S.C. Department of Commerce to provide state-level economic development policy makers with a better understanding of the capital gaps affecting homegrown South Carolina firms.

“From established manufacturing firms to high-tech start-ups, a common issue facing firms nationwide is access to capital to finance their growth. That is why it is important for South Carolina to understand and address capital markets access,” said Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt.

[READ ENTIRE PRESS RELEASE](#)

Ports authority eyes Asia trade
with new carrier sales leadership

Foreign Investment Creates Most
Jobs in China, India, & the U.S.;
South Carolina, Texas, and North
Carolina Lead in U.S.

Chamber gets GE CEO Immelt for
economic conference

S.C. transportation agency seeks
comments on interstate
improvements

Tourism expected to reach pre-
recession levels

Amy Love, Director
Marketing and Communications
S.C. Department of Commerce
marketing@SCcommerce.com

1201 Main Street, Suite 1600 |
Columbia, SC 29201 | 803-737-0400 |
800-868-7232 | www.SCcommerce.com

Sent to Katherineveldran@gov.sc.gov — [why did I get this?](#)
[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)

South Carolina Department of Commerce · 1201 Main Street · Suite 1600 · Columbia, South Carolina 29201