

2008 FALL CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Cabarrus Economic Development

If you're a new or expanding business, the Cabarrus Economic Development Corporation is here for you. Business development plays a major role in the health of our area, so we strive to encourage economic growth in Concord, Kannapolis and all the cities of Cabarrus County.

Cabarrus Economic Development Corporation has assisted dozens of businesses with the services needed for major projects, day-to-day operations and everything in between. Our knowledge of local demographics, business development and the area itself has helped companies formulate effective business plans. We have many resources — all of which are available to you. As Cabarrus County heads into the future, we are poised for sustained growth and development. The county is attractive to businesses with its close proximity to Charlotte and the I-85 corridor, well-trained and diverse workforce, multitude of available sites and buildings and its relaxed yet vibrant quality of life.

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Duke Energy

Duke Energy's Carolinas' operations include nuclear, coal-fired, natural gas and hydroelectric generation. That diverse fuel mix provides nearly 21,000 megawatts of safe, reliable and competitively priced electricity to more than 2.3 million electric customers in a 24,000-square-mile service area of North Carolina and South Carolina.

Duke Energy, one of the largest electric power companies in the United States, supplies and delivers energy to approximately 3.9 million U.S. customers. The company has approximately 36,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity in the Midwest and the Carolinas, and natural gas distribution services in Ohio and Kentucky. In addition, Duke Energy has more than 4,000 megawatts of electric generation in Latin America, and is a joint-venture partner in a U.S. real estate company.

Duke Energy's Economic Development team provides hands-on, high-quality services tailored to meet the needs of our clients and their unique business requirements. Services are performed timely, accurately, confidentially and always *free-of-charge*. Duke Energy is committed to provide customers with a continuous flow of service and expertise and quickly respond to new opportunities. For more information regarding Duke Energy Economic Development, please visit us at:

<http://www.locationdukeenergy.com>.

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Piedmont Natural Gas

Piedmont Natural Gas is an energy services company primarily engaged in the distribution of natural gas to one million residential, commercial and industrial utility customers in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, including 62,000 customers served by municipalities who are wholesale customers. Our subsidiaries are invested in joint venture, energy-related businesses, including unregulated retail natural gas marketing, interstate natural gas storage and intrastate natural gas transportation.

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Progress Energy

Progress Energy, headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., is a Fortune 250 energy company with more than 21,000 megawatts of generation capacity and \$9 billion in annual revenues. The company will observe its 100th anniversary in 2008. Progress Energy includes two major utilities that serve more than 3.1 million customers in the Carolinas and Florida. The company is the 2006 recipient of the Edison Electric Institute's Edison Award, the industry's highest honor, in recognition of its operational excellence. The company also is the first utility to receive the prestigious J.D. Power and Associates Founder's Award for customer service. Progress Energy serves two fast-growing areas of the country, and the company is pursuing a balanced strategy for a secure energy future. That balance includes aggressive energy efficiency programs, investments in renewable energy technologies and a state-of-the-art electricity system. For more information about Progress Energy, visit the company's Web site at www.progress-energy.com.

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PSNC Energy

PSNC Energy is franchised to serve a 28-county service area in North Carolina and distributes natural gas to approximately 380,000 winter-peak customers in 95 cities and communities ranging from the Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill areas in the north central part of the state; the Concord, Statesville, Gastonia and Forest City areas in the Piedmont; to the Asheville, Hendersonville, Bryson City, Cherokee and Brevard areas in the western part of the state. More information about PSNC Energy is available through the company's web site at www.psnenergy.com.

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Red Rock Developments

Red Rock Developments is made-up of an aggressive, seasoned team that combines over 75 years of experience and 10 million square feet of commercial development and construction experience. The company's focus is build-to-suit lease transactions, project development services, land and park developments, speculative buildings, and portfolio acquisitions throughout the country with an emphasis in the Southeast. Our core property types are office, manufacturing, warehouse/distribution, and retail. We never lose sight of the fact that the most important project is the current one! Red Rock Developments is headquartered in Columbia, South Carolina with a regional office in Charlotte, North Carolina and other regional offices opening in the near future.

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S&ME, Inc.

S&ME, Inc. is an award-winning engineering and environmental services firm with more than 30 years experience. S&ME employs 800 professionals and support staff in 22 offices in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia and Tennessee. S&ME's major service areas are geotechnical engineering, construction materials engineering and testing, environmental engineering and occupational health and safety services. The company's core services have grown to become a strong combination that satisfies all construction site and regulatory compliance needs.

The comprehensive experience of S&ME's engineers, geologists, environmental scientists, certified industrial hygienists and certified safety professionals is significant. As project managers, site engineers and designers on thousands of projects requiring an extraordinary range of services, these professionals have gained exceptional understanding and skills. S&ME can equally apply both traditional engineering solutions and innovative approaches to tackle the ordinary, the special and the evolving challenges.

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The Stump Corporation

The Stump Corporation provides professional marketing and consulting skills to firms and individuals attempting to dispose of industrial property in the southeast quadrant of the United States with primary emphasis on the Carolinas and Virginia. The Stump Corporation works closely with state, regional and county economic development professionals as well as local Chambers of Commerce, utility companies, railroad companies and other firms involved with industrial recruitment across the region. Our goal is to guarantee the widest possible exposure for the properties which we exclusively represent.

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Warren and Associates Design-Build, LLC

Warren and Associates Design-Build, LLC, headquartered in Greenville, South Carolina, is an employee-owned company which provides “undivided responsibility” in the planning, design, engineering and construction of projects. Founded in 2006 by Don Warren, DBIA, a charter member of DBIA, the company operates primarily throughout the Carolinas from its headquarters in Greenville, South Carolina and focuses exclusively on Design-Build project delivery for commercial, industrial, distribution, and church-related facilities. “Integrity is everything” is our mantra. Our people is what sets us apart and our commitment is to do what we say we are going to do, when we say we are going to do it.

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Wayne County Development Alliance

The Wayne County Development Alliance, Inc. is a cooperative, public/private organization providing the lead in economic development initiatives for the advancement of Wayne County and its citizens through the creation of meaningful jobs and purposeful capital investment.

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Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice PLLC

Our economic development team includes lawyers, financial and tax experts and seasoned political and public affairs strategists and tacticians. Led by the state’s only four-term governor, we help companies and consultants navigate the maze of issues involved in site selection, and we work in concert with state, county and local economic developers to bring the project in. The success of your economic development program is our mutual objective.

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