

2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Business North Carolina

We do what nobody else does - cover one very special place, this state, and its economy, which is as diverse as the people who call it home. We produce quality, in-depth journalism, digging behind the news, delivering what we uncover in a manner that, though at times provocative, is always fair, accurate and thorough. Our job at *Business North Carolina* is to reflect reality and, in doing so, both enlighten and entertain our readers.

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Carteret County EDC

Carteret County is 526 square miles of fun in the sun! Nestled in the crook of eastern North Carolina's southern outer banks, Carteret County is steeped in history, strong cultural heritage and has a workforce that is second to none. Its scenic beauty and mild climate with over 81 miles of spectacular, sandy beaches, makes Carteret County not only a very attractive location to do business, but also a destination play land.

Carteret County, boasts an educational system that is ranked one of the best in the state on EOG and SAT scores. Carteret Community College, a fully accredited community college and home of NC Marine Trades and Education Center (NC MARTEC), offers vocational, technical and general education. It also offers comprehensive, specialized workforce development training for businesses and industry. NC State, UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke University and NOAA have established educational and marine science research facilities in Carteret County. These investments in education provide Carteret County with a competitive advantage for entrepreneurial development and technological discoveries.

Outdoor adventures include deep-sea fishing, diving, kayaking and canoeing, nature trails and Cape Lookout National Seashore – home of Cape Lookout Lighthouse. Carteret County is also home to the NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, North Carolina Maritime Museum and the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center.

If you're ready for an adventure, it's time to explore Carteret County – Where Business is a Pleasure! Our weekend starts at 5:00 pm EVERYDAY!

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CRB

CRB provides consulting, engineering, architectural, construction management and related services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. We can take total responsibility for a project – planning, budgeting, design, construction, and start-up – or we can help with any individual step along the way. CRB has grown to a staff of over 450 with offices in nationwide. Please visit our websites at www.crbusa.com and www.crbuilders.com.

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Duke Energy

Duke Energy Carolinas has a long history of supporting economic development in the State of North Carolina. Our first generating plants and transmission and distribution grid were built over a hundred years ago to fuel industrial development in the Carolinas. More recently, Duke Energy Carolinas has initiated various programs to stimulate new and existing industrial development in our service area, including our Economic Development and Economic Redevelopment Riders that offer credits for customers locating new load on the Duke Energy Carolinas system.

Our Economic Development and Business Development team has played a significant role in locating many major industries within the Carolinas service territory. Our team is highly qualified in providing hands-on, expert 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 Carolinas continues to be recognized by *Site Selection* magazine as having one of the “*Top 10 Best*” utility economic development programs across the U.S.

For more information regarding Duke Energy Economic Development, please visit us at: <http://www.ConsiderTheCarolina.com>.

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EMBARQ

Practical ingenuity and a common sense approach to doing business are what EMBARQ stands for. EMBARQ provides a suite of communications services to customers in North Carolina and 17 other states. For businesses, the EMBARQ™ portfolio includes local voice and data services, long distance, business class DSL, wireless, enhanced data network services, voice and data equipment, and managed network services. For consumers, EMBARQ offers reliable local and long distance home phone service, high-speed Internet, wireless and satellite TV—all on one monthly bill. And to make it all work, EMBARQ has assembled the best talent in the industry. EMBARQ™ professionals deliver the highest quality results. Besides providing top-flight technology, a reliable network, competitive pricing and exceptional customer service, EMBARQ is committed to being a good neighbor. We support projects that focus on youth and education, health and human services, arts and culture, environmental protection and economic development.

EMBARQ. We're here for you.

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The e-NC Authority

Devoted to connecting people to the Internet and a better future, the e-NC Authority works with all 100 of North Carolina's counties with a focus on rural and distressed urban areas. Created by the N.C. General Assembly, the e-NC Authority is dedicated to increasing prosperity for North Carolina citizens and businesses by creating jobs through technology-based economic development, which requires a broadband Internet platform for success. The e-NC Authority is based in Raleigh, N.C., and is supported through contributions from foundation, nonprofit, public and private entities. For more information, visit www.e-nc.org or call 1-866-627-8725.

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Greenfield

Greenfield is a full service economic development consulting firm for buyers, sellers and allies in the business of business locations. The company helps state, regional and local development organizations recruit businesses, and they help businesses choose locations. The firm is committed to personalized, hands-on service and takes pride in recommendations that are unique and tailored to each location and situation.

Greenfield specializes in manufacturing and distribution projects as well as large infrastructure projects such as power plants. However, they are also experienced in the office, retail and residential markets.

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John S. Clark Company

John S. Clark Company is one of the oldest and largest general building contractors in North Carolina's Piedmont Triad and in the Southeast, and a leading provider of in-house design-build services.

Founded in 1958, the company has headquarters in Mount Airy and full-service offices in Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Wilmington, N.C. Its broad expertise covers industrial, commercial, multi-family, retail, health sciences, technology and institutional construction. It also handles tenant upfits and building improvement projects.

The company attributes its longevity to the quality of its management and professional staff as well as its history of community support. John S. Clark is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and is committed to sustainable design and construction. The company has LEED Accredited Professionals in every office including key members of its design team and was instrumental in starting the Piedmont Triad Chapter of the USGBC.

John S. Clark's customer base includes companies of all sizes from smaller local firms to large national and international companies. The company works primarily in NC, VA and SC but routinely operates all across the southeastern U.S. As a part of Obayashi USA, LLC, Clark is one of the most financially sound contractors in U.S. and is currently ranked 279th by ENR in the Top 400.

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Maxwell 3

Maxwell 3 is a promotional marketing firm headquartered in Raleigh. We specialize in providing brand merchandise programs for companies throughout the US. We oversee strategic sales, marketing and branding efforts so that each client can surpass market demands in their respective industry.

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Nexsen Pruet

Nexsen Pruet, LLC is one of the largest law firms in the Carolinas, with more than 170 attorneys and offices in Columbia, Charleston, Greenville, Hilton Head, and Myrtle Beach, S.C. as well as Charlotte, Greensboro, and Raleigh, N.C. Founded in 1945, Nexsen Pruet provides a broad range of legal services to the business community and represents companies and other entities in local, state, national, and international venues.

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North Carolina Partnership for Economic Development

The North Carolina Partnership for Economic Development (NCPED) brings cohesion, efficiency and strategic leadership to the state's regional economic development network. A private, non-profit organization founded in 1997, NCPED facilitates information sharing among regional development partnerships and the North Carolina Department of Commerce, identifying best practices in regional development, maximizing marketing opportunities and encouraging private sector leadership in the state's economic development programs. All seven regional partnerships participate equally in NCPED, with the Department of Commerce (DOC) serving as a collaborative partner. For more information, visit www.ncped.com

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North Carolina's Eastern Region Development Commission

North Carolina's Eastern Region Development Commission is the economic development agency for a 13-county region. The Commission offers confidential site location assistance and information to companies considering the Eastern Region for a business location or expansion. The Eastern Region encompasses nearly 7,000 square miles, with a population exceeding 900,000 and a workforce of more than 400,000.

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O'Brien/Atkins Associates, PA

O'Brien/Atkins Associates specializes in strategic planning and design for science and technology, corporate and public clients. Results include master plans and custom-designed facilities. Our multidisciplinary staff assists clients with their capital improvement, site selection, master planning and architectural/engineering design needs. Quality design, proven leadership and actively building a relationship through collaboration with our clients, are the hallmarks of our project approach.

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Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, LLP

Corporate relocations and expansions create a lengthy list of legal, financial and regulatory issues. We know how much controlling these and other matters can impact the immediate and ongoing success of such ventures.

Tax incentives often finalize a go or no-go decision. How employment and environmental regulations are addressed during site selection can impact later expansion. Corporate finance and construction agreements often determine whether or not a major move or expansion is ever started or completed on-time and within budget. Providing proven and practical counsel, we advise clients on these and other economic development decisions so management can have greater confidence in their decision-making, maintain control of projects and, ultimately, complete their developments on time and within budget. We provide this comprehensive counsel to domestic and multinational clients, either directly or by supporting their site selection consultants. The capital investments range from the millions to hundreds-of-millions. Our clients range from automotive and chemical companies to pharmaceutical manufacturers and start-up life sciences enterprises.

With all of our clients, we bring to bear our experience and customized service approach to help increase control and confidence in management decisions, while decreasing the time required to move from site selection to planning, building and operating. We use proprietary planning techniques and tools to define our scope of services and to identify efficiencies and potential delays as a project moves forward.

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Piedmont Natural Gas

As North Carolina's largest natural gas distributor, Piedmont Natural Gas plays an important role in the state's growth and economic success by providing clean, efficient and reliable natural gas service to more than 725,000 customers in communities throughout the state, stretching from the mountains of western North Carolina to the Outer Banks on the Atlantic seaboard.

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Progress Energy

Progress Energy (NYSE: PGN), headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., is a Fortune 250 diversified energy company with more than 24,500 megawatts of generation capacity and \$9 billion in annual revenues. The company's holdings include two electric utilities serving approximately 2.9 million customers in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. Progress Energy also includes non-regulated operations covering competitive generation, energy marketing, natural gas production, fuel extraction and broadband capacity.

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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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Research Triangle Foundation

One of the oldest and largest science parks in North America, The Research Triangle Park (RTP) is a 7,000 acre development that is home to more than 170 companies employing over 42,000 full-time knowledge workers and an estimated 10,000 contract employees. RTP is a globally prominent high-technology research and development center that serves as an economic driver for the region and is home to a broad spectrum of companies – from Fortune 100 multinational R&D operations, to university spin-outs and start-up operations and a number of U.S. federal agencies.

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S&ME, Inc.

For over three decades, S&ME has provided award-winning engineering and environmental solutions to thousands of clients in the Southeast and beyond. We offer a diverse range of services – geotechnical engineering, construction materials engineering and testing, environmental engineering and occupational health and safety services, to be exact. But we approach each project the same way: By dedicating the time, talent and expertise it takes to get the job done on time and within budget. And by being upfront and above-board in everything we do. Not exactly the stuff of fashion magazines – though it's helped us grace our offices with more than 50 Engineering Excellence Awards in the last decade. With seven offices throughout North Carolina, the headquarters is located in Raleigh.

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Wayne County Development Alliance

Wayne County Development Alliance, Inc. is a cooperative public/private, non-profit 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 investments.

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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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