

# 2010 FALL CONFERENCE SPONSORS

## ***Ashe County Department of Economic Development***

A department within local government, Ashe County Economic Development is responsible for the recruitment, expansion/retention and entrepreneurial policies of the Board of Commissioners and County Manager.

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## ***Brand Acceleration***

From our offices in Charlotte and Indianapolis, our diverse team of skilled marketing communications professionals helps clients by developing powerful message strategies that will resonate with their target audiences.

Brand Acceleration focuses on economic development, architecture/engineering/construction, commercial and residential real estate, and motorsports.

From brand strategies, logos, web sites, videos and brochures to exciting solutions such as social media marketing, personal URL's and electronic magazines, Brand Acceleration provides a broad range of new and traditional services. By specializing in just a few key industries, we're able to dig in, get involved and bring our clients a much higher level of understanding and service.

Contact: Jim Walton  
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## ***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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## ***Cabarrus Economic Development***

Cabarrus Economic Development can assist you throughout your business relocation and expansion process by providing you a business and community overview, comprehensive and detailed information on availability of commercial real estate, assistance in working with local and state government, expedited permit processing, access to business leaders who know the community and want to share their experiences and fast, personal and confidential service.

Contact: Ryan McDaniels

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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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## ***ECS Carolinas, LLP***

ECS is a geotechnical, environmental, construction materials, and facilities engineering firm headquartered in Chantilly, Virginia. ECS’ subsidiaries operate over 42 locations in the Midwest, Southeast, and Eastern states and employ nearly 1,000 people, including registered professional engineers and geologists, environmental scientists, certified technicians, field engineers, and support staff.

Recently ranked as the nation’s 101<sup>st</sup> largest engineering firm by Engineering News Record (ENR, April 2009), ECS has earned a reputation for being responsive and having the ability to solve problems on major projects. Additionally, ECS was the only geotechnical firm ranked among the Top 100 Pure Design Firms by ENR.

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## ***Greater Statesville Development Corporation***

The Greater Statesville Development Corporation (GSDC) is a public-private partnership of local governments and business leaders. Our purpose is to promote the industrial and commercial development of the City of Statesville, the Town of Troutman and the surrounding area of upper Iredell County, North Carolina. We provide a variety of services and assistance to help locate, maintain and expand new and existing businesses and industries in our area.

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## ***Moss & Associates***

Moss & Associates is a privately held construction company that is ranked among the nation's top 100 building contractors with annual revenues topping \$649 million. Through its regional office in Greenville, South Carolina and headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, our firm provides design-build, general construction, construction management and preconstruction consulting services throughout the United States, Bahamas and Caribbean.

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## ***N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives***

North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives provides trade association services to the state's 26 electric cooperatives. North Carolina's electric cooperatives serve nearly 30 percent of the state's population, some 2.5 million people, with more than 900,000 accounts. Their power distribution territory covers approximately 23,800 square miles, nearly half the state's land area, in 93 of the state's 100 counties.

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## ***North Carolina State Ports***

North Carolina's Ports in Wilmington and Morehead City, plus inland terminals in Charlotte and the Piedmont Triad in Greensboro, link the State's consumers, businesses and industry to world markets, and serve as magnets to attract new business and industry. Port activities contribute statewide to 85,000 jobs and \$299 million each year in state and local tax revenues.

**Top trading partners** are China, India, Brazil, So. Korea, Belgium, Taiwan, Mexico, Colombia, Great Britain and Venezuela.

**Primary exports** are phosphate, forest products, woodpulp, general merchandise, food products, wood chips and military.

**Top imports** are sulfur products, chemicals, grains, rubber, scrap metal, cement, metal products, machinery parts, ore, mica and schist.

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## ***O'Brien Atkins***

O'Brien/Atkins Associates specializes in strategic planning and design for our clients. 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***

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP has 230 lawyers in six offices located in major markets across North Carolina and South Carolina. The Firm provides legal counsel to large commercial and public organizations on litigation, corporate and regulatory matters. It has been recognized in recent years as one of the fastest growing law firms in the United States and as an award-winning leader in the use of technology to provide better and more efficient service to domestic and international clients.

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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 (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 450,000 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](http://www.psnenergy.com).

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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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