

The Aerospace Sector: Economic Opportunity for North Carolina



A Growing Industry

- Today there are more than 200 aviation-related jobs available in the Piedmont Triad alone, with projections for an additional 450 by year's end. (Triad survey, 5/2014)
- Boeing and Airbus have a backlog of more than 10,000 aircraft and plan to raise production to all-new levels in response to record orders ([Aviation Week, 3/19/2014](#))
- The aviation production backlog represents eight years of work and will require multiple suppliers to also expand capacity to meet demand. ([Aviation Week, 3/19/2014](#))
- Economic Developers estimate that each direct aerospace job supports two additional jobs through indirect and induced effects. ([LAEDC Report](#))
- Aerospace manufacturing jobs have an average hourly wage that is 37% higher than other manufacturing jobs. (BLS, 4/2014)
- Business aviation continues to rebound in the U.S. with 6 percent year-over-year growth and 7 percent quarter-over-quarter growth in 2013. ([Jet Support Services, Inc.](#))

A Ready Environment

- The industry has repeatedly selected the Southeast as an optimal location for manufacturing with major OEMs like Boeing, Airbus, HondaJet, Gulfstream, and Rolls Royce and many of their suppliers following.
- The state of North Carolina is ranked second in aerospace growth with a 34% increase from 2007-2012. ([USA Today, 4/2/2014](#))
- There are more than 220 companies in the aerospace supply chain in the Triad alone – from non-woven fabrics to MRO (Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul) and OEM.
- Locally based companies have announced recent expansions including B/E Aerospace, GE Aviation, TIMCO, Purolator, Triumph Actuation, SWG Aerospace, and Honda Aircraft.
- North Carolina has more than 40 centers and research programs in our education system that support aerospace.



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