

NESA

The North Eastern Strategic Alliance



The NESAs Region

The NESA Region Means Business

Infrastructure

With a location halfway between New York and Miami, our region is made up of nine counties in northeastern South Carolina. With a labor draw of 350,000 and a business-friendly environment, the NESA Region provides the ideal mix of community and commerce to enable the success and growth of your business.



Regional infrastructure includes I-95, I-20, and the proposed I-73; US Highways 17, 378, 52, 521, 701, 301, 1, and 501; Myrtle Beach International Airport and Florence Regional Airport; over 350 miles of Class I CSX track with access to the Port of Charleston; and the Port of Georgetown. Parts of the region are located within 45 minutes or less of: Interstates 26 and 77; the Charlotte Douglas International Airport; Norfolk Southern railway lines; and the Ports of Charleston and Wilmington.

South Carolina's Port of Charleston has the best productivity in the U.S. The port currently has five terminals (3 container, 2 breakbulk) with direct access to five interstates, has the ability to handle post-Panamax vessels, and is expanding through the construction of a new terminal.

The Port of Georgetown is a breakbulk port with four berths. It includes open and covered storage and an on-terminal CSX rail connection.



A Thriving Business Environment

Many successful, world class businesses have already chosen to make their home in the NESA Region. Their increasing growth and revenue are a testimony to the area's potential. Because of the NESA Region's ideal location, diligent workforce, supportive government and easily accessible resources, area businesses have thrived and continue to do so.

Some of the NESA Region's major employers include: AVM, Beneteau, Conbraco, Dixie, Domtar, Firestone, General Electric, Heinz, Hitachi (Metglas), Honda, International Paper, Johnson Controls, Kyocera (AVX), Martek, Mohawk Industries, Monster, Nan Ya Plastics, Nucor, Perdue Farms, QVC, Roche, Sonoco, and Wal-Mart Distribution Center.



A Highly Productive and Skilled Workforce

The NESA Region and South Carolina have a strong history of manufacturing excellence and are home to world class companies such as Hoffman La Roche, BMW, Boeing, GE Healthcare, Michelin, Kyocera, Firestone, Conbraco, Honda, Johnson Controls, Sonoco and others. With one of the most productive workforces in the nation, South Carolina excels at manufacturing everything from luxury vehicles, to highly advanced medical equipment, to all-terrain vehicles, to pharmaceuticals, and Boeing's 787 Dreamliner. These world class companies have had no difficulty finding, recruiting and retaining talented and productive workers, technicians, and management employees.



The highly concentrated number of skilled workers who are employed by these industries, along with the other highly educated professionals in the state has created a mindset of educational achievement that is continually growing. This mindset has demonstrated the ability to embrace new technologies as they become available making the workforce of our region even more productive. The state offers excellent workforce training programs that are designed to encourage the adaptation of these new technologies.

South Carolina and the NESA Region are leading the nation in advanced manufacturing and research and development initiatives, making our region an ideal location for a company that is focused on the future.

The NESA Region has over one million people within sixty miles of it's center and it's workforce has been noted to be one of the top three most productive in the United States and first in the Southeast. The labor force in the region has continued to increase exponentially in proportion with the region's increasing population.

The NESA Region has 83,600 workers who are classified as "underemployed" based on their skill sets compared to their actual occupations according to a recent labor study. Of this number, more than half have experience in manufacturing, assembly, or fabrication.

Higher Education

The NESA Region is home to seven colleges and universities and is fully committed to promoting education opportunities.

- Coastal Carolina University
- Coker College
- Francis Marion University
- Florence-Darlington Technical College
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Northeastern Technical College
- Williamsburg Technical College

A Top Notch Quality of Life

The NESA Region, located in beautiful South Carolina, offers something for everyone. You can spend a day at the shore on one of the 60 miles of coastline that make up the famous Grand Strand, play a round of golf, take in a professional or collegiate sporting event, dine in one of our many restaurants, watch the action up close and personal at the Darlington Raceway, or visit a museum or theme park. Whatever your taste, the NESA Region won't disappoint.





Why NESAs?

Our low cost of doing business, excellent location, and high quality of life are just a few of the reasons many world-class companies such as Roche, Honda, Hitachi, GE, Sonoco, and International Paper have chosen the North Eastern Strategic Alliance (NESAs) Region of South Carolina as their home. These companies made decisions to locate in South Carolina because of our state's business-friendly environment and strong legislative support, but also because of the strong work ethic of our people who have made them and will make your company successful in the NESAs Region of the state.

Northeastern South Carolina is a place where businesses prosper, communities blossom and the people savor the rich culture, beautiful scenery and all the benefits of living in a thriving economic environment. This is the NESAs Region. Through partnerships with community, government, and local businesses, NESAs is able to turn its regional success into your success. Won't you join us?



About NESAs

The North Eastern Strategic Alliance (NESAs) is a professional economic development organization representing nine counties in northeastern South Carolina. NESAs strives to promote economic development within the region through lead generation, major infrastructure initiatives, regional marketing and research initiatives.

The NESAs staff has the resources and expertise to assist companies interested in relocation or expanding in the region. Our customized service – free of charge – insures that you have access to all of the components needed to jump-start your business including:

- Regional site selection – NESAs will work with representatives from each of its nine counties to identify the best buildings or sites based on your company's needs. From there, extensive research and guided site tours allow you to make a fully educated decision before you commit.
- Infrastructure – NESAs will work CSX, the South Carolina Department of Transportation, water and sewer authorities, telecommunications companies, and energy companies to identify locations that have the infrastructure your company requires to be successful.
- Incentives – NESAs will coordinate with its county allies and the South Carolina Department of Commerce to develop competitive incentives packages, making locating in the NESAs Region one of the easiest and best business decisions you have ever made.
- Workforce – Through resources offered by the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology (SiMT) and ReadySC, the NESAs Region has the resources to provide you with a world-class workforce that will ensure your profitability and success in the region for years to come.



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