

# NESA

The North Eastern Strategic Alliance



## The NESA Region



# About NESA

The North Eastern Strategic Alliance (NESA) is a regional economic development organization that serves nine counties in northeastern South Carolina. NESA's primary objective is to create jobs for the residents of the region by working within the existing industry base and recruiting new companies.

The NESA staff is dedicated to assisting companies interested in relocating or expanding their manufacturing facilities, distribution centers, call centers, or data center operations in the region. Services to clients include:

- Existing Industry Expansion and Assistance – NESA will work with local, state and federal governmental agencies, utility providers and workforce training resources to facilitate the expansion of existing industries that are committed to creating significant numbers of jobs within the region.
- Information - NESA has numerous research resources that we use to provide up-to-date information to help companies make informed decisions.
- Regional Site Selection – NESA works with the South Carolina Department of Commerce and county economic developers throughout the region in a coordinated effort to understand, evaluate and respond to your needs. Through this effort, we will help your company identify the ideal location for your facility.
- Infrastructure – NESA will work with the South Carolina Department of Transportation, railroad entities, water and sewer authorities, telecommunications companies, and energy companies to identify locations that have the infrastructure your company requires. NESA also promotes the development of new infrastructure in the region.
- Workforce – Through resources offered by the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology (SiMT) and ReadySC, the NESA Region has the resources to provide you with a world-class workforce that will ensure your profitability and success in the region.
- Incentives – NESA will coordinate with its county allies and the South Carolina Department of Commerce to develop competitive incentives packages, making locating in the NESA Region one of the easiest and best business decisions you have ever made.



## The NESA Region Means Business

### Transportation

Located halfway between New York and Miami, our region is made up of nine counties in northeastern South Carolina. Regional transportation infrastructure includes:

- I-95 (N/S), I-20 (E/W) and the proposed I-73 (NW/SE).
- Florence Regional Airport and Myrtle Beach International Airport.
- The Port of Georgetown, a breakbulk port with four berths and includes open and covered storage and an on-terminal CSX rail connection.
- Over 350 miles of rail.

The region also provides excellent access to South Carolina's Port of Charleston which has five terminals (3 container, 2 breakbulk) and the ability to handle post-Panamax vessels.

### A Thriving Business Environment

Many successful companies have chosen to make their home in the NESA Region because of our low cost of doing business, excellent location, and high quality of life. Because of the NESA Region's highly productive workforce and pro-business environment, area businesses have thrived and continue to do so.

Some of the NESA Region's major employers include: ABB, Beneteau, Conbraco, DSM, General Electric Healthcare, Georgia Pacific, Heinz, Hitachi (Metglas), Hoffman La Roche, Honda, International Paper, Johnson Controls, Kyocera (AVX), Mohawk Industries, Monster Worldwide, Nan Ya Plastics, Nucor, Perdue Farms, QVC, Sonoco, Wal-Mart Distribution Center, and Wix.



### A Highly Productive and Skilled Workforce

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. The companies that produce these products have had no difficulty finding, recruiting and retaining talented and productive workers, technicians, and management employees. The NESA Region has over 870,000 individuals within fifty miles of its center and is a business-friendly environment, providing the ideal mix of community and commerce.

The highly concentrated number of skilled workers who are employed by these industries, along with 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.

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 companies that are focused on the future.

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.

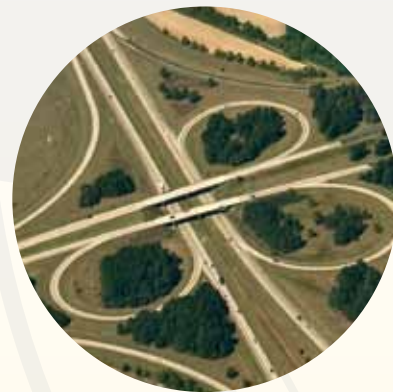
### A Top Notch Quality of Life

The NESA Region offers something for everyone. You can spend a day at the beach on the 60 mile coastline that makes 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.

### 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





## Contact Us

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