

# Aiken

## SOUTH CAROLINA



A much-loved destination for centuries



The Savannah and Edisto Rivers gently meander past flowering peach orchards, live oaks and charming antebellum homes. Horses lazily graze (equestrian sports have found a welcoming home in Aiken for more than 100 years). Then you notice something surprising about Aiken: it isn't sleepy.

For more than half a century, this part of South Carolina has provided fertile soil for the development and application of leading-edge research and innovation, as well as some of the world's most advanced manufacturing.

The Applied Research Center (ARC), located in Aiken County, is the locus of advanced hydrogen and fuel cell technology, which is anchored by research collaboration between the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) and ARC. Working on advanced hydrogen storage, energy materials, micro-ware technology and applied science, our purpose is simple: bring technology from the lab to the consumer.

Our area is home to some of the nation's largest industries whose level of success has dramatically increased since they made their relocation or expansion move. Esteemed industrial businesses such as Kimberly-Clark Corporation, Bridgestone Americas, MTU, Urban Outfitters, Bondex and Southern Felt, find a perfect fit in Aiken and neighboring Edgefield County.

This place has it all: peace and quiet and excitement and science. The place: Aiken County.

### KEY ASSET:

Cutting-edge science research



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# Tishomingo

## MISSISSIPPI



### A Mid-South manufacturing cluster



(Left) Mississippi Silicon is constructing a \$200 million silicon metal production facility on the Tenn-Tom Waterway in Tishomingo County. The main building is 150 feet high and has a 38-foot reinforced concrete foundation.

(Below) G&G Steel is one of two dozen steel and composite fabricators that are located at the intersection of the Tennessee River and the Tenn-Tom Waterway.



**F**ew rural counties have experienced a greater surge in industrial development over the past 10 years than this northeastern Mississippi county. With water connections to the Ohio-Mississippi-Missouri-Great Lakes navigation system and the Gulf of Mexico, manufacturers have clustered to take advantage of transportation options and the workforce, rated among the most productive in the U.S.

With 6,000 acres of industrial parks, a full-service port, several barge facilities, and a number of available industrial buildings, Tishomingo County is poised for another decade of amazing growth.

Comfort Revolution/Sealy recently opened a 432,000-square-foot manufacturing and distribution facility that will employ over 300. "We looked at sites throughout the Southeast for the new plant, but were most impressed with Belmont," said Comfort Revolution founder and CEO Michael Fux. "The outstanding quality of the workforce and the community's support made us conclude this is the best spot for our investment. We've wanted for a long time to produce products in the United States, and we're eager to get started."

#### KEY ASSET:

Transportation options



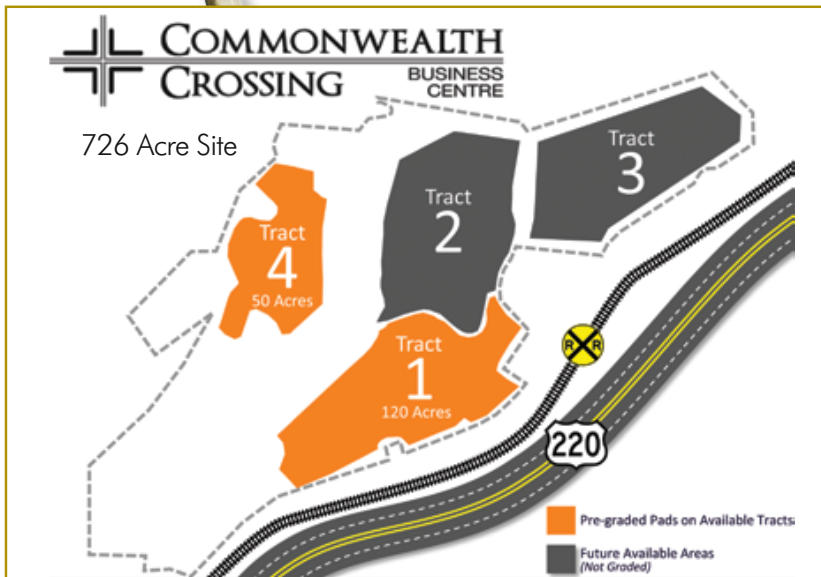
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# Martinsville-Henry County

## VIRGINIA



Leading aerospace suppliers make Martinsville-Henry County home



"On my initial visit to Martinsville-Henry County, I was pleasantly surprised by the manner in which business was conducted. From the existing industry we met, the educational and training programs, and the responsiveness of the local officials, we knew this was a community that supports advanced manufacturing and a community in which we would be welcomed."

—Ray Kilgour  
Chief Executive Officer

Kilgour Industries

World-class aviation and aerospace suppliers make Martinsville-Henry County, Va., their home because of the compelling opportunity for productivity, growth and long-term profitability. The county offers a prime location with direct access to major aircraft assembly plants and Tier 1 suppliers, along with an invitation to partner with advanced research and innovation programs for materials and manufacturing systems.

Specialized skills programs are perfectly articulated to the training needs of the aviation and aerospace industry. The area's highly affordable cost of

doing business helps drive consistent bottom-line results. In addition, there are exceptional development sites that are ready to accommodate a facility.

Kilgour Industries, headquartered in Lancashire, UK, specializes in computerized numerical control machining, wet chemical surface treatments and sub-assemblies of aerospace components. Several factors made Martinsville the right fit for Kilgour Industries, including the geographic proximity to burgeoning aerospace firms in North and South Carolina, Washington D.C., and much of the East Coast. In addition, the hardworking employees and a low cost of doing business were key motivating factors.

RTI International Metals, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Penn., forges titanium for commercial aerospace and defense. Serving Airbus and Boeing from Martinsville, RTI produces quality titanium to meet stringent supplier certification for Airbus. This product is utilized in Airbus passenger jets. The forging, grinding and hot-rolling process is world-class. At full capacity, RTI's forging facility can produce up to 14 million pounds of product annually.

### KEY ASSET: New College Institute



The \$15 million 52,000-square-foot educational New College Institute offers leading-edge equipment in a high-bay manufacturing training environment. Equipment includes CNC 5-Axis Milling Machine, tension testing machine, and many other measuring and cutting machines.

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