

SELECTED CATAWBA COUNTY ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS FROM CY 2008

JANUARY, 2008

NC Center for Engineering Technologies begins offering classes in the former Corning R&D Facility.
MSNBC names Hickory 14th Hottest Housing Market in the nation.
Nationwide Architectural Metals Inc. moves operations from New Jersey to Hickory.

FEBRUARY

Niagara Ventures announces plans to construct spec industrial buildings in Claremont.
Woodcraft Industries opens logistics center in the former Glasscraft building in Conover.
Access Road added to the Little property off of St. Paul's Church Road in Newton.

MARCH

Advance Detection Technology LLC leases Carolina Mills Corporate building in Maiden.
The Systems Depot relocates from Hildebran to the former GE Interlogix building in Hickory.

APRIL

Sutter Street, a division of Williams Sonoma, announces plans to create 820 jobs in Hickory.
Wentworth Furniture announces plans to relocate 20-30 jobs from Pompano Beach, FL to Conover.
Niagara Ventures begins grading and construction on first of four industrial spec buildings in Claremont.

MAY

Target completes grading/exterior shell at 1.6 million sf facility in Newton off of Hwy 321 and Hwy 10.
Catawba Valley Medical Center seeks approval for \$79 million expansion.

JUNE

Convergys announces plans to locate 450-person call center in former Joan Fabrics headquarters in Hickory.
Graystone Ophthalmology and Northwest Oncology opens new medical offices in McDonald Crossing.

JULY

Catawba County Board of Comm. approves \$3 million, 5,000 sf biodiesel fuel testing facility at Eco-Complex.
North Carolina ranks 2nd in State Business Climate Survey.
The Nelson Company, manufacturer and reconditioner of wooden pallets opens facility in Claremont.

AUGUST

Poppelmann announces plans to proceed with Phase II, \$5-\$8 million, 60,000 sf facility in Claremont.
Catawba County ranked top Mid-Market in NC by Southern Business and Development Magazine.

SEPTEMBER

Turbotec, manufacturer of heat exchangers and heat transfer tubing, moves to Hickory, creating 25 jobs.
Hickory Granary is converted into shared office space and receives first tenant, Wynncom in Hickory.

OCTOBER

Hickory Springs' Hickory At Home announces new product line, Hickory At Home Select.
Technibuilt completes \$3 million, 13,000 sf expansion of its facility off Hwy 321 Business in Newton.
von Drehle Corporation announces expectation to add 31 jobs in 2009 in Maiden facility.

NOVEMBER

North Carolina named Top Business Climate by Site Selection Magazine for the fourth year in a row.
City of Conover announces plans to demolish the former Broyhill Plant beginning in December.
Merchants Distributors Inc. announces, 200 job expansion in Hickory.
FedEx begins planning on 109,663 sf expansion that is expected to add 60 jobs in 2009.

DECEMBER

Fiberline, Inc. breaks ground on \$4.5 million expansion, doubling the size of their Hickory facility.
Covation LLC announces plans to create \$5.5 million, 913-person call center in Adecco building in Hickory.
Convergys begins operations in Hickory employing over 300 and expecting to reach 500 in 2009.

CY 2008:

Announced Investment: \$45.02 million

New Jobs: 2,381