

SELECTED CATAWBA COUNTY ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS FROM CY 2009

JANUARY, 2009

Corning's Hickory facility named Environmental Steward by NC Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources.
Conover's Vanguard Furniture makes settee for the Obama family's White House residence.
Southwood Furniture Corporation furnishes chairs for renovated Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.

FEBRUARY

Catawba County adjusts Building Inspection Fees to add incentives for using green building practices.
Hickory Springs becomes one of the first to bring Certi-PUR USCM compliant foam to the domestic market.

MARCH

Hickory Metro Higher Education Ctr. expands degree programs; becomes Appalachian State University Ctr. at Hickory.
Target Distribution holds job fair for Newton facility and begins interviewing for 450 positions.

APRIL

Turbotec holds open house; announces intent to expand and increase workforce over the next two years.
von Drehle Corporation honored by Wake Forest as 2008 North Carolina Family Business of the Year.

MAY

Hickory Springs expands environmental commitment by establishing new corporate sustainability initiative.
Von Drehle Corporation approved for \$4 million IRB to expand Maiden facility and add 15 jobs.
Catawba Valley Medical Center recognized for service excellence by J.D. Power and Associates.

JUNE

BSN Medical announces plans for 50,000 sf, 25 worker expansion in Conover and holds groundbreaking.
Ethan Allen announces \$2.25 million expansion to hire back 150 and add additional 152 at Maiden facility.
General Dynamics-SATCOM receives \$119 million contract for military job.

JULY

Apple announces \$1 billion, 500,000 sf data center facility in Maiden that will create 300 on-site jobs.
Catawba Valley Medical Center moves ahead with \$25 million expansion of Surgical Suite using ARRA financing.
Construction begins on Lowes Foods Store and Backstreet's Bar & Grill projects in Viewmont.
Plans announced for LEED certified renovations to make the Warlong Glove Building the Conover Multimodal Center.

AUGUST

Target opens 1.6 million sf distribution center serving over 60 stores and employing over 500 workers in Newton.
Zenith Global Logistics opens 204,000 sf warehouse in the former Progressive Furniture building in Claremont.
Heil Screw Products relocates from New York and plans 13,000 sf facility in Conover that will create 10 new jobs.

SEPTEMBER

Poppelmann Plastics completes \$8 million, 55,000 sf expansion, doubling their Claremont facility.
Hickory Regional Airport begins update of main taxiway with \$1.14 mill. grant from Federal Aviation Administration.
Nelson Oil Company, headquartered in Hickory, successfully completes and receives ISO 9001-2008 certification.

OCTOBER

Fiserv, Inc. announces financial services customer support center in the Adecco building to employ 419 workers.
Catawba County EDC joins Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Iredell Counties to market the NC Data Center Corridor.

NOVEMBER

Legacy Furniture announces plans to move into the 139,000 sf former Ameritex building with plans to add 50 jobs.
SunQest in Newton receives stimulus funds for solar thermal panel manufacturing, hoping to add 10 jobs.

DECEMBER

City of Conover receives \$200,000 grant to assist in cleanup and redevelopment of Warlong Glove Building.
Fiserv, Inc. begins interviewing for positions in its new 419-employee financial customer support center in Hickory.
The Greater Hickory Classic at Rock Barn secures title sponsor and becomes the Ensure Classic at Rock Barn.

CY 2009:

Announced Investment: \$1.02 billion

New Jobs: 963