



Quarterly Update

IN THE NEWS



They're working hard to keep others working

Florence Morning News, April 17, 2016

"We got a glimpse of it all two weeks ago when Insurance Services of South Carolina held the second in a series of "Think Forward" speaker forums. This enlightening breakfast focused on local economic development and featured panelists Ronald Carter, Lauren Stanton and Frank Willis. "It's all about jobs and capital investment," said Willis, the executive director of Economic Development of Darlington County. "It's all about the numbers" [Read more here](#)

Positive signs ahead for Darlington County business

News and Press, April 12, 2016

"On April 11, 2016, the Darlington County Council passed on ordinance to establish a dedicated funding source to aid the Economic Development Partnership's efforts to attract new business and industry to the county." [Read more here](#)

Forum dissects Pee Dee economic development

Florence Morning News, April 5, 2016

"A trio of economic developers offered insight into their world during a Tuesday morning forum for business leaders seeking to better

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PROGRESS MEMBERS

Be sure to RSVP by April 29 to attend the Industry Appreciation Event on May 3.

Share your news

Do you or your company have any Darlington County news to share? If so, email us [here](#) and we'll include it in our next newsletter and on our website.

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Contact Us

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understand how the Pee Dee attracts industry and keeps up with existing customers." [Read more here](#)

Positive signs ahead for Darlington County business

Florence Morning News, March 21, 2016

"Optimism is eternal. "Or whatever they say," joked Frank Willis, executive director of the Darlington County Economic Development Partnership. He sees plenty of positive signs on the horizon as small expansions of existing industries - "Here, there and yonder," he said - might not grab headlines but create jobs that pay well. "I wouldn't call it robust, but it's on the positive side." [Read more here](#)

DCEDP SPOTLIGHT



Integrated Systems Robotics Event

February 23, 2016

On February 23, 2016, Integrated Systems Inc. in Hartsville held an expo to introduce YuMi, the latest in collaborative dual-armed robots from ABB. The robot is designed to work directly with humans without the traditional safety cage and is purposely built for small parts assembly. YuMi is built with breakthrough functionality and has very user-friendly programming that allows it to be used for multiple tasks in the same facility. With its' lightweight design of under 100 pounds, the robot is highly mobile and can be moved throughout the work day as requirements change.

The event took place at Integrated Systems' headquarters at the Darlington County Jetport and included tours of their facility throughout the day to several different companies from across NC and SC. Many of the visitors expressed interest in receiving a proposal for using the YuMi in their operations. One particularly exciting opportunity was for assembling and packing nut and bolt kits to be shipped along with other parts. The YuMi is uniquely designed to work alongside employees who add some components while the YuMi adds others.

"We see this operation being a possibility across many different industries in the state, particularly with companies like Caterpillar in Sumter," stated Dan Askins of Integrated Systems. He continued "This

event would not have been possible without the help of our partners at Darlington County Economic Development and NESAs who worked very hard to make area businesses aware of this new technology."

[Learn more on the Integrated Systems, Inc. website.](#)

UPCOMING IN DARLINGTON COUNTY



Upcoming Industry Appreciation Event

May 3, 2016

Darlington Raceway will host the next Darlington County Industry Appreciation Event on **May 3, 2016**. The event will be held in the Finish Line Club at the track from **4:00 to 7:00 pm** and will include catering by Bizzell's. Chip Wile of Darlington Raceway will be giving rides in the pace car around the legendary track so Progress members can get a taste of the speed and excitement of Darlington's signature event. Attendees will be able to network with Progress members and learn more about the group's efforts to support local economic development efforts and about local programs to assist existing industry.



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