



INVESTOR UPDATE

MAY 2015

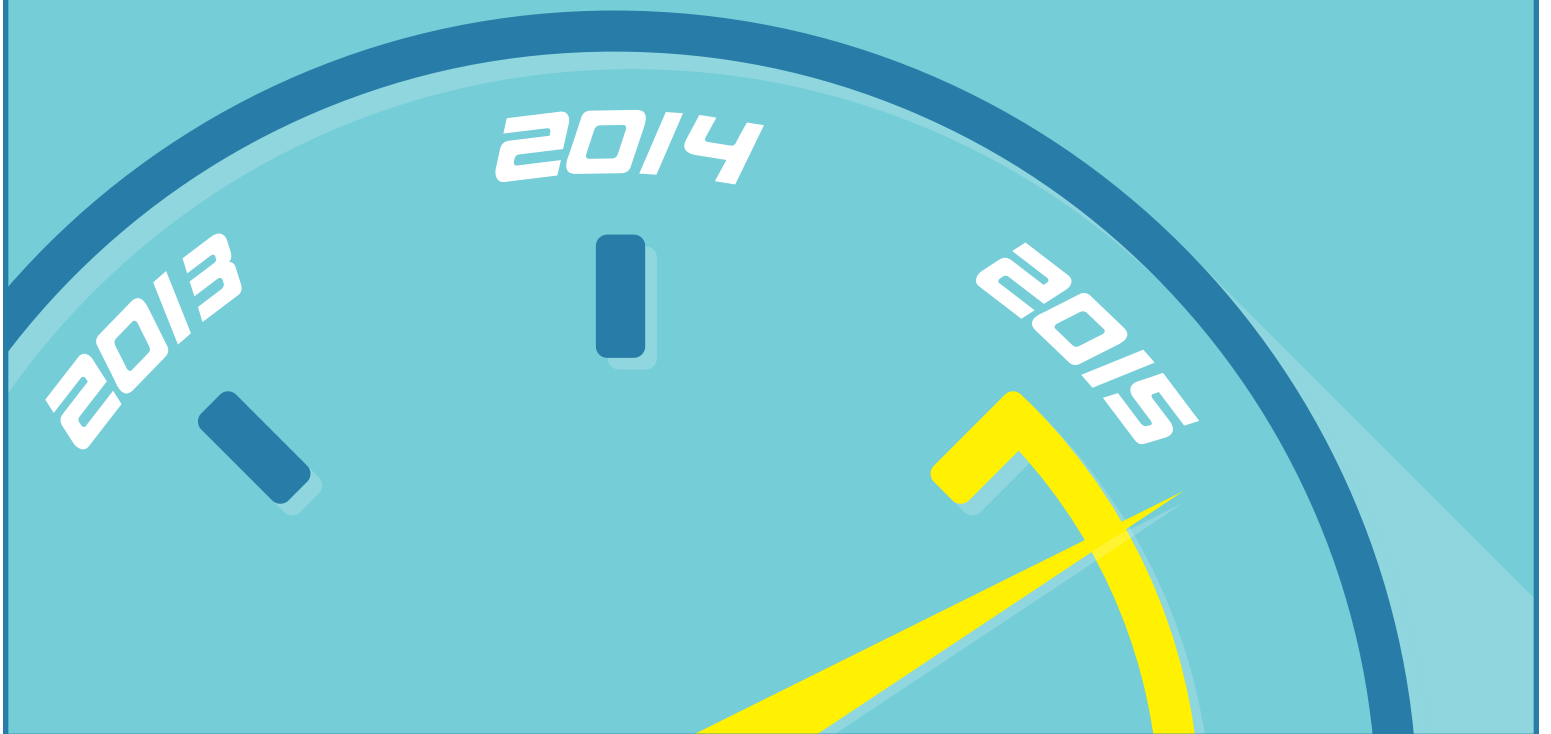
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DRIVING GROWTH.

Becoming a world-class metropolitan region.

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Dear Accelerate Greater Charleston Partner:

Four years ago, we collectively agreed that as a metropolitan area, we needed to strategically position the region to ensure our future success. In the three core areas of innovation, talent and advocacy, we needed to provide the optimal assets to support growth in a highly competitive, global race for success.

We knew that the most powerful thing we could do in scaling our region to achieve its full potential is to bring the right parties and players together to collaboratively address the regions' future. As a result, we launched Accelerate Greater Charleston – a strategic plan for advancing the competitiveness of our region – in January 2012.

AGC excels at identifying and then coordinating where we need to go, how to get there, who needs to drive efforts forward and prepare the next set of priorities. The three-year history that you are about to read demonstrates AGC's capacity to, time and again, advance our region by being the catalytic center point for action and coordination on top issues. Each year builds upon the last, with building blocks and achievements that mark the trajectory of our prosperity.

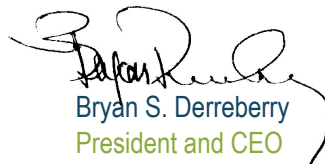
In three years, our community has achieved tremendous results. Through our collaborative efforts with you, our investors and partners, we have truly accelerated our region to attract and retain the businesses, people and partnerships that will sustain our competitiveness and livability for future generations. And we are not finished. Through Accelerate Greater Charleston, we will continue to create and build to ensure that the unprecedented growth experienced throughout our region results in economic stimulus, advanced human capital and enhanced productivity.

We hope you enjoy this timeline of AGC outcomes and achievements thus far. Thank you for working with us to proactively tackle the region's top talent, innovation and advocacy priorities. With you we have set the bar high and the community is responding.

Respectfully yours,



Laura G. Varn
2015 Chair of the Board
Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce



Bryan S. Derreberry
President and CEO
Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce

INNOVATE TO CATALYZE DYNAMIC AND FAST-PACED BUSINESS SUCCESS

Building a thriving economy to secure our region on the global commerce stage is made possible through Accelerate Greater Charleston.

2013

Metro Charleston Export Plan initiated in partnership with Brookings Institution

Metro Charleston Metro Export Plan completed and presented to the region

WTCC hosts international delegations from Ireland and Thailand for business forums

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem asset map developed

2013 Cyber Security Conference held showcasing Charleston as center for cyber security

Established World Trade Center Charleston (WTCC), a significant resource for growing international trade

Established WTCC Steering Council

Established e-Certify program to provide online certificates of origin for shippers

WTCC hosts international delegations from Bermuda and Ireland for business forums

WTCC launches first International Trade Luncheon showcasing importers and exporters

2012



2012 2013

2014

Entrepreneur Ecosystem online portal developed and launched

Catalyst Center design begins

Metro Export Plan training team established comprised of coalition from the U.S. Commercial Service, Small Business Development Center and retained export consultants

Export Training Program launched; six companies enrolled

WTCC hosts international delegations with Indonesia, Africa and the Canadian and British Consul Generals for business forums

WTCC partners with Export-Import Bank of the U.S.

Catalyst Center opens; regional resource for entrepreneurs and Chamber members

eCrowd membership platform established for Catalyst Center resources

Export Training Program cohort #2 launched; 11 graduating companies in 2014 reporting \$2+ million in actual and pending export revenue

2014 Cyber Security Conference held showcasing Charleston as center for cyber security

3rd cohort for Export Training Program graduated; 14 companies now trained

Small Business Platform in development; Focus Groups held for small business member feedback

2015

2014

2015

TALENT FUELS SPEED TO IMPLEMENTATION AND ENHANCED PRODUCTIVITY

Accelerate Greater Charleston works to provide our region's employers with a highly skilled, work ready talent pool.

2014

Regional Workforce Readiness - The Chamber engages Avalanche Consulting and The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) to conduct regional comprehensive skill and degree gap analysis

Next Level Leadership Program launched

Accepting applications for Trident Technical College Scholarships

Talent Gap Analysis completed and unveiled to community

Youth Apprenticeship Program launches in partnership with Trident Technical College; 11 high school juniors hired at five local manufacturing companies for industrial maintenance

Career Academy Coordinator hired to secure business partnerships and school/business relationships

Talent Handprint developed by Next Generation Consulting

Emerging Leaders Program launched

Accelerate Greater Charleston Scholarship Fund established at Trident Technical College for degrees in Health Science, STEM and Culinary/Hospitality

5 high schools secured to pilot Career Academies for the 2013 – 2014 school year

Six teachers and guidance counselors from Berkeley County School District visit Nashville Academies

2013



2012 2013

Regional Education Council prioritizes Talent Demand Study improvement recommendations

Scholarships awarded to 12 local high school students to attend Trident Technical College

Charleston County School District commits to Career Academies by fall 2015 in 13 area high schools

Regional Computer Science/IT Advisory Board established to develop IT Academies

25 manufacturing and IT companies host 200+ educators for high-demand industry field studies

Chamber partners with Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) for future PRIME designation of Career Academies (Partnership Response in Manufacturing Education)

Career Headlight development begins (online tool for occupation demands)

Chamber creates Career Academies Intranet for education and business partners

Career Academies now have more than 1,300 high school students enrolled in 7 Career Academies with 23 business partners secured

Charleston County School District begins developing Academies at 13 high schools

Career Academies now have more than 5,149 high school students enrolled in 23 Career Academies with 82 business partners secured

Raspberry Pi courses launched to create interest in computer sciences

2015

2014

2015

2013

2012

Full-time Chamber Lobbyist hired

2012 Legislative Agenda distributed

Lobbyist works at State House during Legislative Sessions driving key economic issues to the table

75% of Legislative Agenda adopted

State Delegation Appreciation event held

Established the Glenn McConnell Legislative Leadership Award and presented to then-Senator McConnell

Africa Command Relocation Task Force established to develop strategy and support to relocate U.S. Africa Command from Stuttgart Germany to Charleston

2013 Legislative Agenda distributed

Lobbyist works at State House during Legislative Sessions driving key economic issues to the table

First chamber in South Carolina to take a position in support of Medicaid expansion

Successfully lobbying Charleston County Council to vote to complete I-526 (Mark Clark Highway)

Chamber leads statewide effort to support comprehensive Federal Immigration Reform

75% of Legislative Agenda adopted

State Delegation Appreciation event held

Glenn McConnell Award for Legislative Leadership awarded to Representative Jim Merrill

Created and published first Legislative Scorecard

Infrastructure Vision Task Force created with 16 regional infrastructure priorities

S.C. Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Commissioners vote unanimously to approve the amended intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between Charleston County and the state to complete Mark Clark Expressway



ADVOCACY IS CENTRAL TO ADVANCING OUR REGION'S PROSPERITY

*Accelerate Greater
Charleston's advocacy
efforts are designed
to guarantee our
region's sustainable
and prosperous growth.*

2014

Chamber on Capitol Hill to discuss the region's efforts to relocate Africa Command to Charleston

Legislative Agenda includes additional funding for infrastructure, state appropriations for aeronautical enterprise campus at Trident Technical College and a property tax exemption of privatized housing on military installations

Lobbyist works at State House during Legislative Sessions driving key economic issues to the table

Chamber launches targeted campaign to lobby support and passage of Charleston University Act to establish regional post graduate degree offerings

60% of Legislative Agenda adopted

State Delegation Appreciation event held

Glenn McConnell Award for Legislative Leadership awarded to Leon Stavrinakis

Legislative Scorecard distributed

Infrastructure Funding
Vision Lab held

2015 Legislative Agenda includes two top statewide priorities – Infrastructure improvements through increased Motor Fuel User Fee and securing legislation for University of Charleston R1 status

Lobbyist works at State House during Legislative Sessions driving key economic issues to the table

Africa Command Relocation
Task Force work continues

Charleston Young Professionals
begin creation of Advocacy platform

Apprenticeship program expands with 43 companies offering apprenticeships in fields of manufacturing, computer technology and culinary/hospitality

2015

2014

2015

THANK YOU AGC INVESTORS

Abi Angel
Adams Outdoor Advertising
AECOM
ALCOA Mt. Holly
Anderson Insurance Associates LLC
Avison Young
Baker Motor Company
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
BB&T
The Beach Company
Benefitfocus
Bently World Packaging
BERCHTOLD Corp.
The Boeing Company
Cady Nell West
CB Richard Ellis Carmody
CC&T Real Estate Services
CCCS International
Chad Woods
Charleston Branch Pilots Association
Charleston County
Charleston Defense
Contractors Association
Charleston Water System
Chernoff Newman
Choate Construction Company
City of Charleston
City of North Charleston
Clawson and Staubes, LLC
Colin Ross
Cooper River Partners
CresCom Bank
Daimler Vans Manufacturing LLC
Dale Carnegie Training of SC LLC
Daniel Island Company, Inc.
Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP
Dunhill Staffing Systems
East Cooper Medical Center
Elliott Davis Decosimo LLC
Francis Marion Hotel
Go To Team
Greg Barrett
Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd PA
Hendrick Automotive Group of Charleston
The InterTech Group Inc.
Island Realty
Jay Werth
Jessica Jackson
John Osborne
John Rizzo
Johnson Controls
Jules Deas III
K&L Gates LLP
KapStone Charleston Kraft LLC
Laura Alberts Tasteful Options

Life Cycle Engineering
Limehouse Produce Co.
Lowcountry Residential Builders LLC
LS3P ASSOCIATES LTD
Maverick Southern Kitchens
Maybank Properties LLC
McKesson Corporation
McRae Hamer
Medical University of South Carolina
Meridian Energy & Environment LLC
Moody CPA's & Advisors LLC
Mount Pleasant Waterworks
Mungo Homes
MWV
NAI Avant
Nexsen Pruet LLC
Nucor Steel
O.L. Thompson Construction Co.
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash,
Smoak & Stewart
Pegasus Steel
The Post and Courier
Premier Logistics Solutions
PURE
Rawle Murdy
Residence Inn by Marriott
- Charleston Riverview
Richard Guerzon
Robert Bosch Corp.
Roper St. Francis Healthcare
Santee Cooper
SCE&G
Scientific Research Corporation
SCRA
Seamon Whiteside + Associates
Seidler & Associates LLC
Showa Denko Carbon, Inc.
Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP
Solvay
South Carolina Aquarium
South Carolina Federal Credit Union
South Carolina Ports Authority
South State Bank
SteelFab of South Carolina
Stubbs-Muldrow-Herin Architects, Inc.
SunTrust Bank
TD Bank
Town of Mount Pleasant
Trident Health
Trident Technical College
WebsterRogers LLP
Wells Fargo
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice LLC
Young Clement Rivers LLP

Thank you for reviewing this Accelerate Greater Charleston Investor Update and for your ongoing support of our region's metro advancement plan.

**ACCELERATE
////// GREATER
CHARLESTON**

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