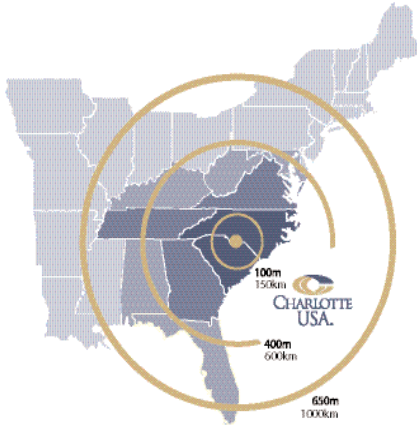


What is Charlotte USA?

The Charlotte region continues to strengthen its position as one of the most dynamic and diversified locations in North America. This 16-county region – 12 in North Carolina and four in South Carolina – is home to more than 850 foreign-owned firms, eight FORTUNE 500 company headquarters and a growing population of more than 2.6 million residents.



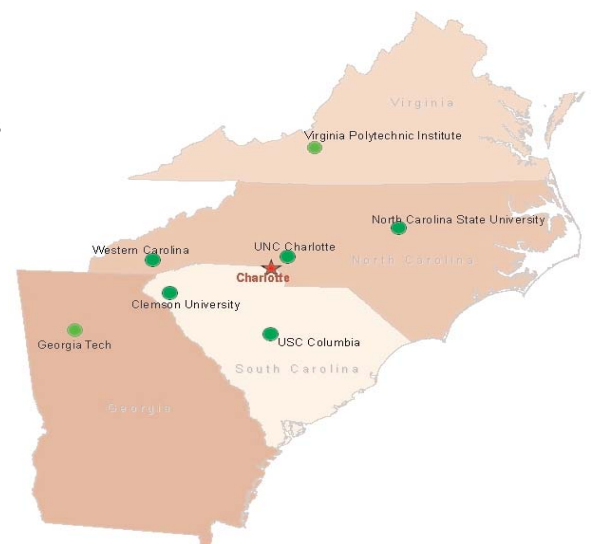
Solar Energy Industry Highlights

- 1,400+ undergraduate engineering degrees and 1,000+ graduate and doctoral engineering graduates annually at major universities within 250 miles of Charlotte, NC
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Lee College of Engineering, a leading university for engineering, science and technology
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Optoelectronics Center, emerging leader in optical technologies through pure and applied research
- Energy Production Infrastructure Center (EPIC) at UNC Charlotte providing education and research to train electrical/civil engineers for careers in energy field
- Electric Power Research Institute's R&D headquarters facility, members represent more than 90% of electricity generated in the U.S.
- Highest potential of solar supply base in the Carolinas
- Sencera International Group, investing \$36.8 million to build solar module manufacturing facility
- NC has a Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard of 12.5% by 2021 for Investor Owned Utilities and 10% by 2018 for Coop's Municipalities
- Carolinas represent least unionized manufacturing area in the U.S.
- Largest airport in Carolinas and 9th busiest in U.S. with 664 daily departures and more than 120 non-stop destinations with direct flights to Germany, UK, France, Canada, and Mexico

Incentives for Solar Industry

- Tax credits and rebates based on job creation and capital investment
- Local and State grant programs
- Research and development tax credit programs
- State and local infrastructure development incentives
- Sales tax exemptions for technology intensive operations
- Energy improvement loans
- Flexible recruiting, screening, and training programs tailored to meet client company's needs
- Industrial revenue bonds programs
- Utility cost economic development incentive programs available
- Renewable Energy Tax Credits available in North and South Carolina
 - N.C. Renewable Energy Incentives provide 35% tax credit of the cost of renewable energy property constructed, purchased or leased in N.C.
 - S.C. Renewable Energy Incentives provide a 25% tax credit for development, production and use of biomass energy, renewable fuels, solar, wind and energy-efficient vehicles and buildings

Major Engineering Universities within 250 miles of Charlotte, NC

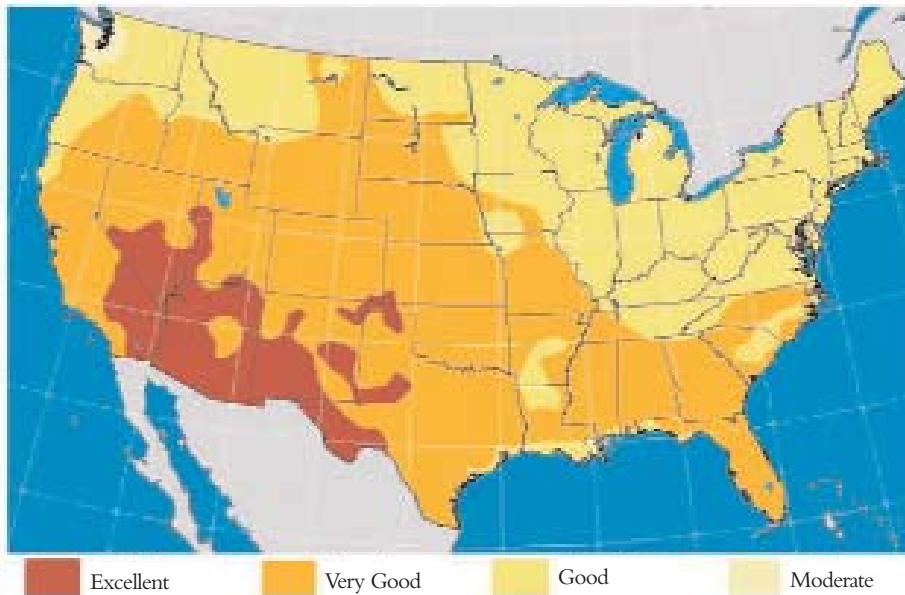


SOLAR ENERGY

Growing and Talented Workforce

- More than 180,000 students enrolled in 34 universities, colleges, community and technical colleges within the 16-county region
- Charlotte MSAs ranked as the 7th fastest growing metropolitan area in the U.S. (U.S. Census 2007-2008)
- North Carolina and South Carolina rank as the 9th and 14th fastest growing states in the U.S., far out pacing the national average; annually the region has added approximately 100,000 new residents each year since 2005
- 12.5 million people located within 150 mile radius of Charlotte USA

Figure 1. Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Resource Potential



Industry Resources

North Carolina State Energy Office

<http://www.energync.net>

North Carolina Green Power

<http://www.ncgreenpower.org>

North Carolina Solar Center

<http://www.ncsu.ncsu.edu>

South Carolina State Energy Office

<http://www.energy.sc.gov>

UNCC College of Engineering

<http://www.coe.uncc.edu>

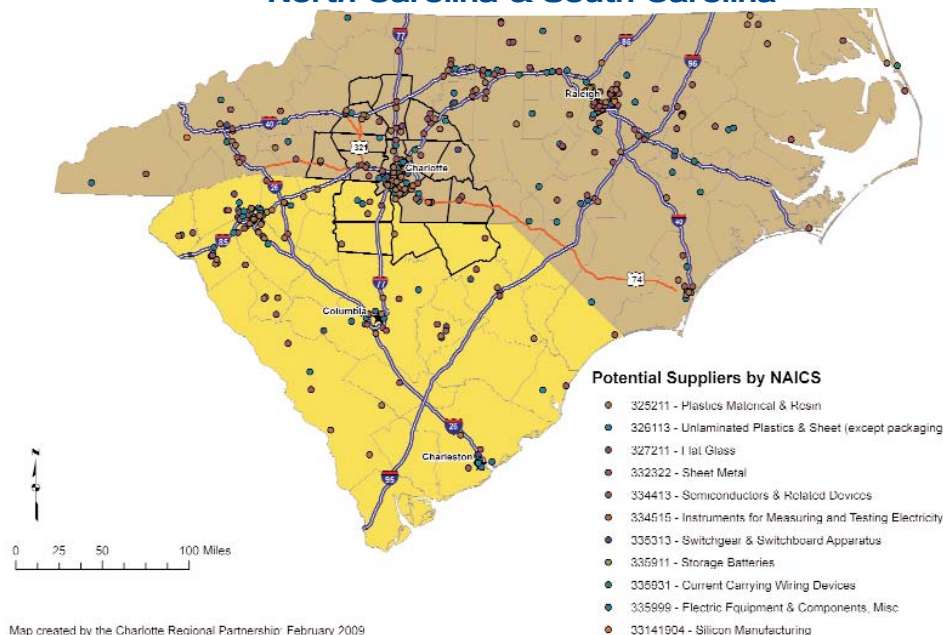
Electric Power Research Institute

<http://www.epri.com>

Biofuels Center of North Carolina

<http://www.biofuelscenter.org>

Solar Power: The Potential Supply Chain, 2008 North Carolina & South Carolina



For more information, call 800.554.4373 or 704.347.8942.
www.charlotteusa.com