



No Boundaries

Controlling the cost of government, creating jobs and improving the quality of



The 3rd Annual Advanced Manufacturing Awards took place on February 28, 2013. This year's program was the start of a public-private partnership between the CEDC, the Centralina Workforce Development Board and the Charlotte Business Journal to hold the awards. This partnership afforded the competition the ability to reach a larger audience and help to further validate the event in the private sector.

The Advanced Manufacturing Awards were established in 2010 through the [Minds that Manufacture Initiative](#). The awards were created to support and highlight advanced manufacturing in our region and to create a hot spot with bright minds, new ideas, innovative talent and resources. The year's awards recognized and celebrated process excellence in our region that demonstrates best practices utilized during the calendar year of 2012.

A half dozen businesses and individuals in the Charlotte region were honored as winners of the 2013 Advanced Manufacturing Awards. The recipients are:

- Bosch Rexroth Corp., best process-improvement project.
- STEMersion Steering Committee, best collaboration.
- Bosch Rexroth Corp., best innovation project.
- General Microcircuits, best green process project.
- Daimler Trucks North America, corporate leadership.
- Vince Reese of Clearwater Paper Corp., emerging leader.
- Hope Johnson of Siemens Energy Inc.'s Apprentice 2000 program, student achievement.

The keynote speaker was Dan DiMicco, executive chairman of Charlotte based steel manufacturer Nucor Corp. DiMicco stressed the importance of innovation to achieve success for manufacturing in the U.S. Quoting from *Good to Great*, DiMicco said, "innovation must be both continual and disruptive."

The Advanced Manufacturing Awards are just one part of the initiative "Minds That Manufacture" was designed to support and encourage advanced manufacturing in the greater Charlotte region. To find out more about the awards and advanced manufacturing in our region log on to: www.mindsthatmanufacture.com.



ANNOUNCING CAREER HEADLIGHT A REGIONAL PILOT PROJECT

Job seekers, career professionals and employers will soon have access to real-time information on a user friendly web based platform that will provide a roadmap to careers in the region's growing target industries. This unique pilot project, called the "Career Headlight" operationalizes the Jobs, Workforce & Education Alignment Study, that was a result of the [2012 CEDS](#) update. This project is the first work product of the [CONNECT Our Future](#) project.

A key component of CEDS planning process is to help the regional economy boost its job growth rate by linking the region's workforce skills and strengths, education assets, and infrastructure to the needs of high-growth and emerging industries. The [Jobs, Workforce & Education Alignment Study](#) identifies the skills, education, and training assets in the Greater Charlotte Region.

Career Headlight will provide local labor market and sector data, on in-demand skills, related to industry sector and employer data, job training and career education offerings. The [Centralina Workforce Development Board](#) will be the lead entity for the development and implementation of this exciting new tool.

For more information on the Career Headlight project or to read the 2012 CEDS report or Jobs, Workforce & Education Alignment Study go to: www.4noboundaries.org.

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RealityCheck2050—Regional CONNECT Our Future event will engage leaders in a regional exercise on growth issues

What will this region be like in 2050? How will we live? How will we get around? Will your children want to live here? Another 1.7 million people are expected to live in this region in 2050, and with projections for over 800,000 more jobs. Where will they all fit?

These are some of the questions that will be considered at the June 4 RealityCheck2050, a hands-on growth planning exercise that launches the second phase of **CONNECT Our Future's** public engagement process to develop a regional growth framework. The event will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center and will bring together 400 regional leaders and residents to explore options for how the region should grow.

Reality Check2050 is being sponsored jointly by the Centralina Council of Government (North Carolina), Catawba Regional Council of Governments (South Carolina) and Urban Land Institute as part of **CONNECT Our Future**.

If you participated in **CONNECT Our Future's** small groups and open houses, you told us what was important to you in how we grow, and what you see as challenges we face. **RealityCheck2050** builds on these results obtained through the first phase of public engagement and allows you the opportunity to turn your thoughts into actions—to put your ideas on a map! Following the RealityCheck2050 event, you will have opportunity to participate in a series of Community Growth Workshops to be held throughout the region from August–October 2013. The input from these events will guide the development of alternative regional growth scenarios.

Can't make Reality Check? Visit the website below for information about how to join in online, or to find out about Community Workshops beginning in August. Help us grow by choice, not by chance!



CONNECTOurFuture.org

When: Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Where:
Charlotte Convention Center
201 S. College St. Charlotte, NC 28202

All applicants are due by
May 3, 2013

For more information and to apply:
<https://ulicharlotte.wufoo.com/forms/k7p9k5/>

The 14 counties participating in the CONNECT Our Future project are: Anson, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, and Union counties in North Carolina, and Chester, Lancaster, Union and York counties in South Carolina.

What is the CEDC & How Can We Help?

The Centralina Economic Development Commission (CEDC) was established in 2005 by Centralina Council of Governments to promote the retention of jobs, a diversified economic base, development, expansion and retention of business and industry and the growth within Centralina's nine county region. The CEDC brings together private and public sectors in partnership to provide a coordinated strategy and ongoing economic development. With financial assistance from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), the CEDC brings together these diverse sectors into a comprehensive economic development and planning process; otherwise known as a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

To view the 2012-2017 CEDS go to
www.ProspertyForGreaterCharlotte.com

The CEDC's charge is to implement regional priorities identified in the CEDS by conduction research, and to provide technical assistance and access to program funding for our member governments.

Contact the CEDC to find out how our services can benefit your community.
CEDC@centralina.org

