



LAURENS COUNTY Development Corporation | Accelerating industrial progress

An International Beacon

Home to 245 international companies representing 24 countries, Upstate South Carolina provides an exceptional business climate for some of the world's most forward thinking companies, including world leaders in the development and application of cutting-edge technologies in a multitude of industries such as automotive, healthcare and advanced materials.

Located in the northwestern corner of South Carolina, Laurens County is not only strategically positioned between two of the largest cities in the Southeastern United States – Charlotte and Atlanta – but it also provides an unmatched quality of life to its residents. Laurens County and the Upstate region have excellent schools, diverse dining options and a multitude of cultural and recreational opportunities. It's easy to see why people are blown away by Upstate South Carolina.



SELECT COMPANIES
Emitec, Faurecia, Fehrer, Fukoku, Kimura, Koerber, Michelin, Norbord, Unifor



Port of Charleston



I-26 & I-385 Interchange



Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport Front View

Infrastructure

By Sea

- Less than 3 hour drive to the Port of Charleston
- Most productive East Coast port – handled 1.28 million TEUs in 2010
- Recipient of the Presidential “E” and “E-Star” awards
- Serves more than 150 nations by 50 different steamship companies
- A new terminal that will boost total container capacity in the port by 50% is set to open in 2016

By Land

- There are over 40 Cargo/Freight carriers in a 60 miles radius of Laurens County
- 2 interstates – I-26 and I-385 connecting to I-85
- 4th largest state-maintained highway system in the nation
- Class I commercial rail service provided by CSX

By Air

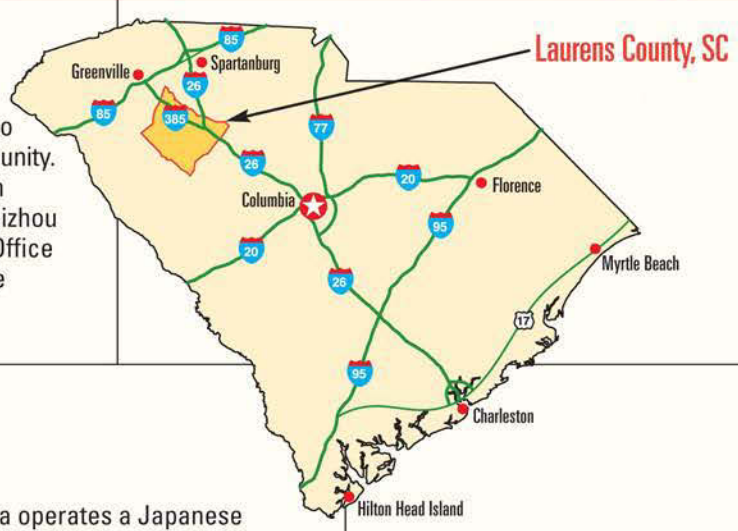
- Largest airport in South Carolina
- 77 non-stop daily departures to 19 major cities daily
- Two Federal Inspection Stations
- 11,001-foot runway capable of accommodating any aircraft currently in operation
- Home to 12,000 sq. ft. FedEx facility capable of sorting up to 3,000 packages per hour



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International Support

As international investment has grown in the region, so have outreach opportunities for the international community. One example is the Confucius Institute at Presbyterian College in Clinton, established by Presbyterian and Guizhou University. The institute is sponsored by Hanban, the Office of Chinese Language Council International, to promote mutual understanding between the two nations.



International Education

Japanese Saturday School

The Japanese-American Association of South Carolina operates a Japanese Saturday School. The school offers supplemental education for Japanese children to provide them with learning of their culture, heritage and language.



Michelin French School

Michelin's North American headquarters in Greenville operates the Michelin French School, which is accredited by the French Ministry of Education. The school provides educational opportunities for grades 1-12 with classes taught in French.

German Saturday School

The University of South Carolina Upstate operates a German Saturday School. The school provides cultural and language training for German students as well as American students preparing for the Advanced Placement German language test.

Korean Saturday School

The Korean Saturday School, operated by the Korean Association, focuses on cultural and language education for Korean children.

Chinese Sunday School

The Chinese Sunday School, operated in partnership with Greenville Technical College, focuses on cultural and language training for Chinese students.



International Center for the Upstate

The ICU offers a multitude of services designed to promote cross-cultural understanding among local and international residents of Upstate South Carolina. Established in 1998, it has representatives from over 70 countries.

Services

- Language Classes, Newcomer Assistance, Women's Club, Cultural and Social Events, School and Community Programs, Films, Book Clubs and Festivals