Research Triangle Region, North Carolina

The Place to Be for Cleantech

The Research Triangle Region of North Carolina is leading a global cleantech revolution with hundreds of companies and thousands of employees developing innovations that will shape a more sustainable future. If you’re in the cleantech business, this is the place to be.

Critical Mass of Companies

- 350-plus cleantech firms
- Mix of Fortune 500, headquarters, mid-size and startups
- Home to hardware, software and data analytics leaders
- Home to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s largest research lab and its health and environment research center
- North Carolina is home to the largest U.S. electric utility, Duke Energy

Dedicated Cluster Organization

- Industry-formed and funded
- Accelerates innovation through collaboration and partnerships
- Globally recognized brand and companies
- Member International Cleantech Network

“Everyone you need to talk to is right here, so collaboration happens in real time.”

ALLEN BURCHETT, ABB INC.
Innovation Ecosystem

- Three world-class research universities (Duke University, N.C. State University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), 10 other colleges and universities, and nine community colleges
- High concentration of hardware and software companies focused on grid integration
- Four smart energy research centers
- 17 water research and policy centers
- 16 entrepreneurial support organizations
- High concentration of EV-charging manufacturing activity
- High-profile demonstration opportunities
- Supportive policies and business climate
- Triple Helix model and culture of collaboration (business, government, academia) that propel innovation

Talent & Workforce Development

- 1 million-strong workforce – diverse, educated, skilled
- 32,000 higher education graduates each year
- 45% of workforce holds college degree (U.S. 37%)
- High concentration of engineering/engineering technology degrees
- Customized workforce training
- Cluster workforce survey identifying company talent needs

Exceptional Quality of Life

- Talent magnet, consistently ranked top place to live, work, and play
- Abundant cultural and outdoor offerings
- High-quality K-12 education
- Affordable cost of living compared to other high-tech hotspots

Our areas of focus leverage the strengths and assets of the region’s companies and universities.

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