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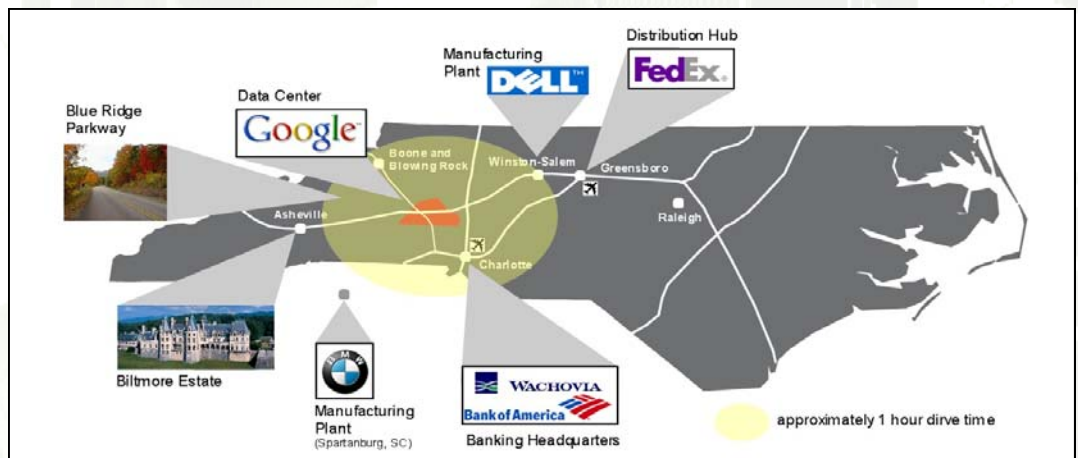
Tier 3+/Tier 4 Data Center Sites

- ✓ Low Cost, Reliable and Redundant Electricity provided by Duke Energy with an average industrial rate of \$0.045/kwh prior to any economic discounts.
- ✓ Sales Taxes on Machinery and Equipment are capped at the lesser of 1% or \$80 per article for Qualifying Projects
- ✓ Within 45 minutes of the Charlotte Douglas International Airport
- ✓ Low Cost/Abundant Water (up to 5mgd available capacity)
- ✓ Low Cost and Reliable Fiber and Network Infrastructure by multiple providers (AT&T/Charter Business/Duke Net @ 2.5g Ficons)
- ✓ Insulated from Natural or Manmade Disasters
- ✓ Fast Track Local Permitting and Targeted Incentives
- ✓ Extensive Training Assistance from the NC Community College System including NSA Certification and Certified Network Engineer programs
- ✓ Catawba County is within one hour of two of top ten least expensive cities to operate a data center, as rated by The Boyd Company Inc., Winston-Salem, NC and Charlotte, NC.
- ✓ Positioned between the Charlotte MSA and the Hickory MSA, laborforce totals over 600,000 within 30 minute commute.
- ✓ Home of the Largest Fiber Optic Training Facility in the US



Security, Infrastructure Redundancy

Being **insulated from potential natural and man made disasters** makes our area ideal for data centers and server farms. We are isolated from the coast and therefore have little impact from hurricanes. We are located at the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains therefore being protected from tornadoes, and although we are a small MSA we are an hour outside of Charlotte, North Carolina, limiting the potential impact of a terrorist attack.





**1960-B 13th Ave Dr. SE
Hickory, NC 28602**

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Forbes

Hickory, NC ranked

3rd in the US for Cost of Doing Business

20th in the US for Cost of Living

2006

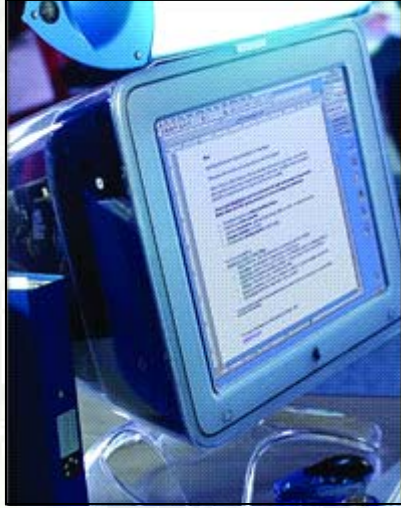
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“The Catawba County Economic Development Corporation is dedicated to the recruitment of high wage, high growth industries, or what we consider Most Favored Businesses. We have identified data centers and mission critical facilities as our primary target market for recruitment efforts and we are committed to site development for these industries. Combined with targeted local and state incentives, we are committed to this target sector.”

Catawba County is ideally suited for the location of data centers due to abundant, low cost and reliable electricity, water, and fiber, not to mention a location that insulates us from disasters. In fact, the recent location of Google proves that our area is attractive to data centers.”

“We have anticipated the needs of the data center industry and are working daily to make Catawba County one of the best places in the country to locate data centers and mission critical facilities.”

*Scott Millar
Catawba County EDC President
smillar@catawbacountync.gov*



Local Fiber Optics Manufacturers are Willing Partners

Three industry leaders in telecom manufacturing, **CommScope**, **Corning Cable Systems** and **Draka Comteq** have called Catawba County, North Carolina home for over 20 years. Collectively they employ over 4,000 people in 6 plants countywide.

CommScope, the world’s largest manufacturer of coaxial cable for Hybrid Fiber Coaxial (HFC) networks, is a global leader in infrastructure solutions for communications networks.

Corning Cable Systems has the largest fiber installations training facility in the United States in Catawba County.

They have committed to further the opportunity in this market place by providing value added service such as design engineering and access to the local high tech experience.

These cable industry leaders have a willingness to partner and have committed to assisting in the formation and growth of the data industry cluster in Catawba County.



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