

Advanced manufacturing requires advanced materials, and South Carolina is increasingly supplying it to the world in the form of plastics, optics, photonics, advanced textiles and composite materials. From its textile beginnings in the early 20th century, the Palmetto State remains at the forefront of the production of composites and advanced materials. With an innovative workforce, significant research facilities focusing on polymer and advanced composites technology and a growing supply of engineers, South Carolina supports an increasingly significant cluster of advanced materials companies.







Fueling Growth in the Composites, Advanced Materials and Plastics Industries

Composites, Advanced Materials and Plastics

Since 2011, companies in the composites, advanced materials and plastics sectors have announced over \$7.1 billion in capital investment in South Carolina creating over 10,000 new jobs. The table below highlights a few of these recent announcements.

Research and Development

The South Carolina Research Authority's (SCRA) Composite Manufacturing Technology Center and Clemson University's Advanced Materials Center in Anderson, SC comprise two of the top R&D and application centers for composites in the world. The Advanced Materials Center has some of the world's brightest science and engineering faculty and graduate students conduct leadingedge research. The Center is a major catalyst for collaboration between the private and public sectors. Most notably research on fibers, ceramic technology, plastics and advanced composites technology has been conducted for and recognized by the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense and NASA: all three have offered funding to fuel future innovation.



Graduating more than 1,000 engineering students each year, Clemson University and the University of South Carolina help provide a solid pipeline for composites and advanced materials companies seeking an educated and talented workforce.

