

SC Fraunhofer USA Alliance

What is the SC Fraunhofer USA Alliance?

The South Carolina Fraunhofer USA Alliance (SCFUSA) is a collaborative effort between The South Carolina Council on Competitiveness, the South Carolina Department of Commerce, and the Fraunhofer USA Center for Experimental Software Engineering CESE in Maryland. The Alliance was created to advance applied research in engineering and technology across the state of South Carolina with the Fraunhofer USA Center for Experimental Software Engineering and South Carolina research institutions. The work of the Alliance and the research it supports strive to give South Carolina a competitive edge in advancing applied research and innovation that can move industry forward.

Recent Collaboration History

There are five projects underway or recently completed under the new SC Fraunhofer USA Alliance

TIMEFRAME	TOPIC	PARTIES INVOLVED	NOTES
2018-2019	TELEHEALTH	  	Ongoing
2018-2019	Collaborative Robotics	  	Completed
2018-2019	IoT	   	Completed
2018-2019	Wire Harness Automation	  	Completed -Gen 2 Continued- Private Sector
2019	Cloud-based data platform	   	Ongoing

What Leadership Says



“A cornerstone of our work at the Council is to support our industry clusters by furthering actionable research studies that empower companies with information needed to grow and sustain their competitiveness. So, we’re very proud to be entering into this partnership with the Department of Commerce and Fraunhofer USA to manage the Alliance and to help raise South Carolina’s national and international profile as a leading provider of industry research and technology.” - Susie Shannon, President, and CEO, SC Council on Competitiveness



“This new partnership with the prestigious Fraunhofer network gives South Carolina a unique competitive advantage by introducing a model to bring the state’s universities into the problem solving needs of our companies. The creation of the South Carolina Fraunhofer USA Alliance reinforces our reputation as a business-friendly state that supports advanced research, and we’re excited about the innovation that will result from this initiative.” - Bobby Hitt, South Carolina Secretary of Commerce



“Fraunhofer USA is excited to expand its presence in South Carolina. Our mission is to get technology to companies so they can be more successful. Working together with highly creative researchers at South Carolina universities, statewide leadership organizations like the Council on Competitiveness, and forward-looking South Carolina companies, we can do just that!” - Dr. Adam Porter, Executive Director, Fraunhofer USA Center for Experimental Software Engineering CESE

About the SC Council on Competitiveness

The South Carolina Council on Competitiveness is a nonpartisan, business-led, nonprofit organization that drives South Carolina’s long-term economic growth through managing select industry clusters and providing the research, network, and resources that clusters require to thrive.

Led by President and CEO, Susie Shannon, the Council manages multiple initiatives and industry clusters in South Carolina including SC Aerospace, SC Logistics, TechSC, SC CyberAlley and TransformSC. It also provides resources and support to other clusters and initiatives across the state. Industry clusters are economic ecosystems of linked industries and other entities important to competition, like suppliers of components, machinery, and services. These inter-connected ecosystems cultivate a business environment that fosters innovation. Innovation, in turn, spurs new business ventures.

About S.C. Department of Commerce

As South Carolina's leading economic development agency, the Department of Commerce works to recruit new businesses and help existing business grow. S.C. Commerce has recruited world-class companies to South Carolina such as BMW, Boeing, Continental, Giti Tire, LPL Financial Holdings, Mercedes-Benz Vans, Samsung, Toray and Volvo Cars and also supports startups, small and existing business, innovation and rural development initiatives. S.C. Commerce partners with the S.C. Technical College System via readySC to support workforce training and recruiting, and with the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, which provides worker training and employment opportunities within the state. With a strong international footprint, the Palmetto State ranked No. 1 in the nation for attracting jobs through foreign investment on a per capita basis in 2018 -- extending its streak of top three finishes since 2011. Additionally, the state has won the Gold or Silver Shovel Award from Area Development magazine every year since 2011; and, in 2017, the state was recognized as Business Facilities' State of the Year.

About Fraunhofer USA

Fraunhofer USA, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit charitable organization incorporated in Rhode Island, dedicated to the advancement of applied research. Fraunhofer USA was founded in 1994 to conduct applied R & D for customers from industry and state and the federal government in the United States. Fraunhofer USA can offer both domestic and international resources to enhance its portfolio of R & D services.

Fraunhofer USA CESE, one of seven Centers comprising Fraunhofer USA Inc., conducts applied research to support the software-enabled innovations created by our customers in industry, government, and academia.

Learn more about the SC Fraunhofer USA Alliance

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