



Connecting Lives with Business



Our Mission

+ The Toombs County Development Authority exists to attract investment, forge relationships, connect people and serve as a catalyst for the positive processes that support business visions, relocation and expansion.

Our Philosophy

Economic development is an ongoing process requiring consistency and a pro-active attention to detail that lead to strong relationships between communities and private sector business. Good companies develop people who in turn, take productive roles in the development of communities. Likewise, the same people support business growth and prosperity. Helping to optimize the success of our corporate residents increases the quality of life for all Toombs County residents.

At the core of our philosophy is helping companies position themselves for success. Business and industry can expect our consistent and unwavering service, commitment and knowledge—through partnership of common goal—to connect companies, locations and people.

Our Vision

Toombs County will continue its most recent economic rise and diversification by furthering its attraction of logistics, financial services, technology, manufacturing/assembly and warehousing industries, including regional and corporate headquarters. Leveraging the combination of our central location, immediate proximity to major population centers and global ports, as well as our skilled labor pool and attractive incentives, the Toombs County Development Authority will continue to evolve to meet the changing needs for business in the new global economy.



VIDALIA CITY SCHOOLS

“There is a tremendous commitment to the education of our young people in Vidalia and all of Toombs County. We view it not only as an investment in their lives — but naturally — an investment in our communities as well.”

—Dr. Tim Smith, Superintendent

The Sweet Spot™

Casual observers know Toombs County as home to the famous sweet Vidalia onion, but for business, onions aren't the only sweet asset. Our location reveals what a growing number of industries have already discovered: a low cost, progressive, pro-business place to operate. One that is both central—and in close proximity—to multiple population centers with immediate access to global markets via the Port of Savannah. In fact, very few counties along the Eastern Seaboard present the combination of attractive location benefits that Toombs County provides:

- Less than 90-minute transport to both I-95 and I-75 (the major Eastern Seaboard and Midwest corridors) & the Port of Savannah (2nd largest domestic container port).
- Less than 3.5 hours transport to/from 3 other international ports (Brunswick, Charleston & Jacksonville).
- Centrally located within 3 hours transport between top tier metropolitan centers Atlanta and Jacksonville. Equidistant and less than 90 minutes from 2nd tier population centers of Savannah, Augusta and Macon.
- Located in the heart of Georgia's agricultural breadbasket.



Infrastructure + Capacity For Growth

Toombs County has created the infrastructure necessary for many kinds of industries to excel, through business partnerships within our communities as well as at the state level. Our secondary road system puts any company on the primary shipping corridor of I-16 west to I-75 (south to Florida and north to the Midwest)—and east to the north/south I-95 corridor, the Port of Savannah and global markets beyond. The Toombs Corporate Center at U.S. Hwy. 1 at Lyons, GA, is a 260-acre industrial park that features class A industrial and manufacturing facilities as well as pad-ready sites. It is just one of several available land and site-ready options in our county.

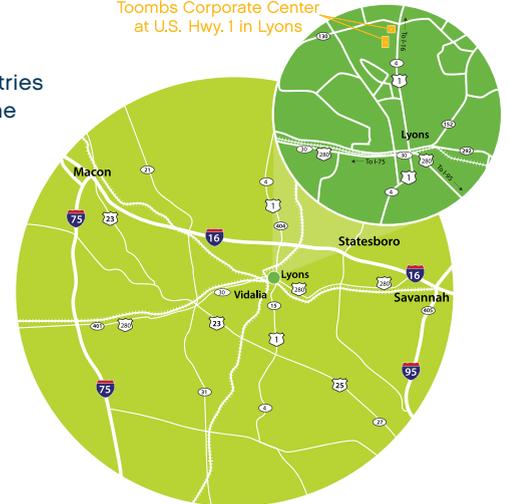


DOT FOODS

"We looked for the best logistical place to continue our company's growth in the Southeast. Toombs County's assets & the Toombs County Development Authority made it an easy choice."

-Tim Truxel, Plant Manager

Toombs Corporate Center
at U.S. Hwy. 1 in Lyons







Beyond infrastructure, capacity, and our location, Toombs County only gets better. We already have a robust support system of 1st and 2nd tier industry suppliers that enable large relocating and expanding businesses to make their transition an easy one. This in turn, enables companies to focus on their core product and service offerings—not sourcing or connection. From metal fabrication & machine design to construction, uniform apparel & services to transportation, banking & finance to real estate, health care and more —Toombs County already has these support services in place together with a robust educational & vocational system ensuring the resources to grow.

That is why when companies choose to relocate or expand in Toombs County, we go to work: helping to identify companies' requirements, facilitating their needs and providing connection—not just to succeed—but to excel.

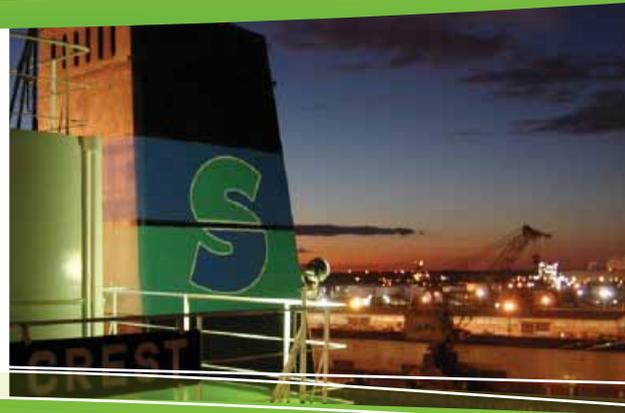
The potential to excel in Toombs County exists for many industries. Among them:

Manufacturing

The proximity to the port of Savannah, the land and low labor cost advantages position Toombs County as an outstanding location for many types of manufacturing, from plastics and chemicals to the light assembly and manufacture of medical supplies, electronics and others seeking global markets.

Logistics

The greatest cost savings that industry can realize—can be realized here. In supply chain management, warehousing, operations and transportation for dozens of industries. Toombs County's building capacity and availability, and its unsurpassed network of secondary roads puts companies on I-16 within minutes giving them access to world markets and half day transport to Florida markets.



Technology

It's not just technology in the horizontal sense: Toombs County provides an ideal location for specialized vertical technology in the areas of medical/health, agri-business, manufacturing/assembly, warehousing, the internet and green technologies.

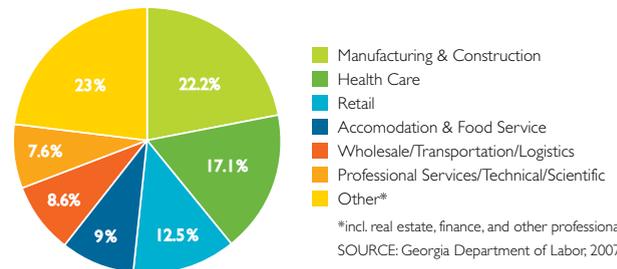
Value-Added Agribusiness

There is no better way to increase value to the customer than to reduce time to market and cost by locating food and processing operations at the product source. With global access and major population centers within hours, products from the fields can be processed and on their way to market in record time.

Aerospace

The growth of aerospace industry manufacturers nearby requires similar growth and capacity of their suppliers. Toombs County has an affordable land and low labor cost location for the manufacture, assembly and supply of many components for use in the aerospace industry.

Broad Industry Composition for Toombs County



*incl. real estate, finance, and other professional services
SOURCE: Georgia Department of Labor; 2007





The Company We Keep

What do L.L.Bean, Lands' End, Trane, the U.S. Military, the Vidalia® Onion, Tommy Bahama, Tumi, and NASA have in common? Quality is at the core of their mission. Secondly, all have directly manufactured, distributed or relied on industry in Toombs County for success. Toombs County has steadily caught the eye of a number of companies in a variety of industries looking for high productivity, central location, global market access and low operating cost. Company headquarters, plants and branch operations alike are our strongest references for the business environment in Toombs County.

OXFORD APPAREL GROUP

A Division of Oxford Industries, Inc.



"The Toombs County Development Authority and the community help provide a favorable business climate for local industry to prosper by offering tax support and continuing education seminars. Their continued interest in Oxford has allowed us to remain a vital employer in our community."

-Angie McDaniel, International Operations Manager

Investment in People

What fuels the phenomenal growth for business in Toombs County? People. Toombs County provides this fuel for growth with charter educational and technical training colleges, and the investment in the future of young lives. Between the communities of Vidalia and Lyons lies one of Georgia's technical and career colleges, Southeastern Technical College, supplying graduates that meet business needs in a variety of curriculums, including business technology, industrial technology and health sciences. Combined with its nationally recognized Quick Start Program, a component of the Technical College System of Georgia and the state's Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP) through the University System of Georgia, Toombs County is poised to supply the workforce for any business positioning itself in the new global economy.

Our commitment to education, training and the skills of people in our communities is paying off in the availability and retention of skilled labor, ensuring that our talent stays home and businesses continue to have all the tools they need to prosper.



TRANE

"We've had tremendous success due largely to the quality of the workforce. It's a neighborhood of communities with great work ethic — and it has paid off for Trane."

—Marek May, Business Leader



U.S. ENERGY SCIENCES, INC.

"The county infrastructure and financing connections were enormously critical in our technology company's success. We're now into our 7th year with 50 employees."

—Cindi Hicks, President

—Andy Loosberg, Vice President



The Connection of Business, Life and Culture

Architectural rendering of Meadows Regional Medical Center replacement facility scheduled to open in 2010.



MEADOWS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

"I moved here in a temporary leadership capacity with Meadows Regional over nine years ago. I couldn't imagine not living here now. The people make this place special."

—Alan Kent, President and CEO

The Toombs County Development Authority knows that business tends to be more successful when it is connected with people and that the reverse is true. The same people dedicated to each other here are also dedicated to the success of industry here—putting to work their competence, skills, work ethic and connection to each other—for everyone's success. It makes for a progressive and yet simpler, relaxed



but purposeful way of life. There's a sense of urgency and ambition that is much different from that in the congestive, maddening crowd of very large cities. The value for companies doing business in Toombs County is very high due to the unique "can do" attitude and connectedness of its people—to the land, to the efforts of business and to each other as a community.



WORLD CLASS EVENTS

Toombs County annually hosts world class festivals and events, including the Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby and the Vidalia® Onion Festival with an award winning air show.

Photo Credit: Donna Tomlin
Blue Angels

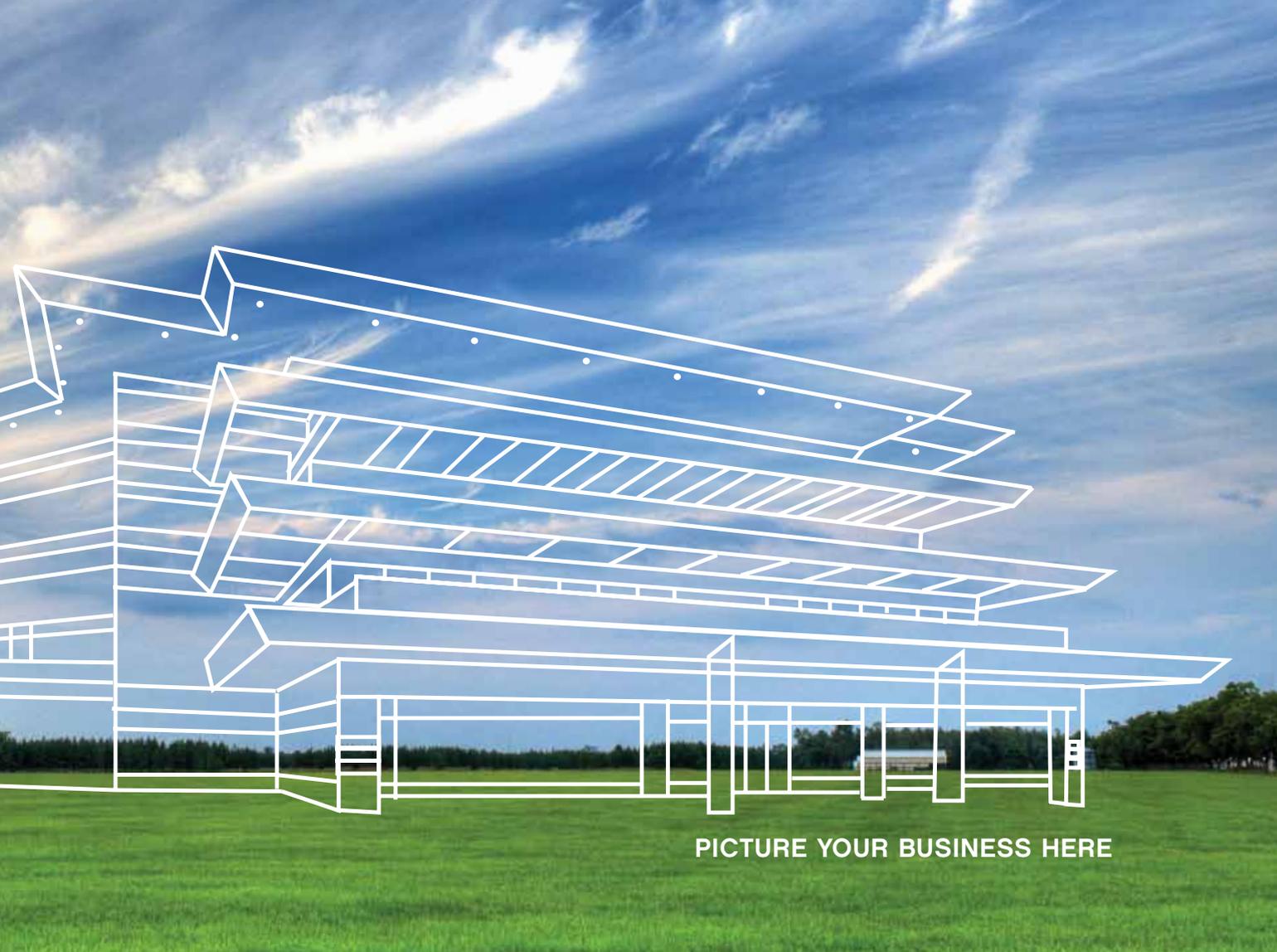


Connect With Us We'll Connect With You

We invite you to experience the location, the assets, the people and the connected culture of Toombs County for yourself. To learn more about the potential for your company's growth and the pro-business assets in Toombs County, the only connection you need to make is the first one.

Give us a call or visit us on the web.
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PICTURE YOUR BUSINESS HERE



Toombs County
development authority

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