



North Alabama Industrial
Development Association
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New Investment

Limestone County

"It provides a springboard for us to more effectively service the ever expanding North Alabama market."

—Tom Russell, President & CEO, Loftis Steel & Aluminum

Loftis Steel & Aluminum, a family-owned steel fabrication company headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, is expanding its footprint with the launch of a new operation in Decatur/Limestone County. The facility will produce custom metal components for a wide range of commercial and industrial applications. This growth represents a \$6.5 million investment and will create 20 new jobs.

Marshall County



MADE I





NORTHERN ALABAMA COLD STORAGE
HENDERSON RD, BOAZ, AL 35057

SCHEMATIC RENDERING

Envision Cold Storage Boaz (ECS Boaz) is investing \$64,438,400 to build a 200,000 sq ft cold storage facility in Boaz. This project is expected to create 82 new jobs.

Recent Developments

Calhoun Community College celebrated the ribbon cutting of its Advanced Technology Center, a 57,200-square-foot expansion designed to provide state-of-the-art training facilities for high-demand industries. The Center equips students with the skills and nationally recognized certifications needed to pursue high-paying, high-demand careers. This facility represents an investment not only in infrastructure, but in people, families, and the continued economic growth of our communities.

"When workforce training thrives, we all benefit." - Senator Arthur Orr

Media

Huntsville has been ranked the #4 Best-Performing City for Economic Growth by the Milken Institute. This year, Huntsville climbed 12 spots in the rankings, surpassing communities such as Colorado Springs, Austin, and Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Huntsville continues to earn national recognition for its strong housing market, quality of life, and intellectual capital. Recently, **WalletHub** ranked Huntsville as the **15th Smartest City in America**, evaluating the 150 largest metropolitan areas based on factors such as education, infrastructure, and innovation.

In addition to this accolade, Huntsville was ranked **#5 overall** and **#2** among midsize cities in WalletHub's **2025 Best Cities for First- Time Home Buyers** report. This recognition followed a comparison of 300 cities across 22 indicators related to affordability, market attractiveness, and quality of life.

Huntsville also ranked among the **Top 10 Best Places to Rent** in WalletHub's **2025 Best & Worst Places to Rent in America** report, which evaluated more than 180 cities using 21 metrics related to rental affordability and livability.

Together, these rankings reinforce Huntsville's growing reputation as a dynamic, innovative, and affordable community, recognized among the nation's top housing markets, offering exceptional opportunities for both home buyers and renters.

Recent Developments

Alabama has expanded its entertainment incentives, offering new opportunities for film, television, and music projects. In tandem with this expansion, the state has officially rebranded the Alabama Film Office as the **Alabama Entertainment Office** to better reflect the diverse scope of its creative industries. This strategic move is designed to position Alabama as a premier destination for entertainment productions. With enhanced incentives and a renewed focus on the creative sector, Alabama is poised to attract more major projects and become a key player in the entertainment industry nationwide.

Allegiant has announced new nonstop service from **Huntsville International Airport (HSV)** to three additional destinations: Fort Lauderdale (FLL), Orlando–Sanford (SFB), and St. Petersburg/Clearwater (PIE). With these additions, Huntsville now offers nonstop flights to 18 destinations.

IKEA, the global leader in home furnishings, has selected **Huntsville** as the location for its first store in the state. This milestone marks a major step forward in Huntsville's continued growth and reinforces Huntsville's rising profile as a magnet for major retail and business expansion.

L3 Harris Technologies opened its new 379,000 SF solid rocket motor inert parts production facility in Huntsville. This \$20 million investment has created 40 jobs with plans to add an additional 100.



Industry Expansions

Cullman County

Rusken Packaging, headquartered in Cullman, Alabama, is a manufacturer of corrugated packaging solutions serving over 1,000 customers worldwide from numerous facilities in the Southeast. They're currently investing \$46 million in facilities and equipment in Cullman to accommodate increased demand, a project creating 30 new jobs.

Limestone County

Carpenter Technology—a manufacturer of specialty alloys serving the aerospace, defense, medical, transportation, energy and industrial markets—plans a capital investment of \$354.25 million to expand its operations, which is expected to generate at least 62 new jobs over a three-year period.

Madison County

Parsons Corporation is expanding its presence in Huntsville with a new 27,000-square-foot facility at Redstone Gateway designed to support national defense and missile-defense programs. This strategic investment of approximately \$5 million will create 198 new jobs and deepen collaboration with Redstone Arsenal.

Performance Drone Works (PDW) has officially opened its new 90,000 sq ft manufacturing facility in Huntsville, Alabama, marking a major expansion of its drone production capacity. The facility is expected to add more than 500 new jobs and produce approximately 60,000 drones annually to serve U.S. military and first-responder missions.

Morgan County

Pro-Fab Machine, a precision machining and metal-fabrication company based in Hartselle, is investing \$13.5 million to expand its fabrication operations by 50,000 square feet, creating approximately 40 new jobs.

THE ROCKET CITY IS SELECTED AS THE NEW LAUNCH PAD FOR SPACE COMMAND

United States Space Command (USSPACECOM) selection to make its permanent home in the North Alabama region is the culmination of not just one, but two highly competitive national site selection processes, both of which underscore the region's exceptional readiness and capability.



In late 2020, the United States Air Force announced a six-site shortlist for the permanent USSPACECOM headquarters. Following a thorough evaluation covering infrastructure, workforce, mission-alignment, and cost-effectiveness, Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville was selected as the preferred site in January 2021. This outcome affirmed that our region offers unmatched aerospace/defense heritage, a deep technical talent base, and the logistical and community infrastructure to support Space Command.

Once again, during a re-evaluation, our region stood out — meeting all mission requirements and surpassing other candidacies based on experience, readiness, and capability.

These two separate competitions reflect a robust validation of our capabilities. Each competition involved rigorous national-level assessment; succeeding twice sends a powerful signal about our community's strength.

"Bringing Space Command to Huntsville enhances our ability to integrate with existing space and missile defense assets at Redstone Arsenal, including the Army Space and Missile Defense Command and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. This co-location will accelerate joint operations and ensure we're postured for long-term dominance in the space domain." — General Stephen Whiting, Commander, U.S. Space Command

For Huntsville and the broader North Alabama region, this development will translate into long-term economic growth, enhanced national-defense relevance, and sustained investment in talent, housing, infrastructure, and technology for years to come.