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Matthew Hoyman of Cape Fear Precast, Jacksonville, NC accepts the 2017 Sustainability Award

2017 Sustainability Awards Winners Cape Fear Precast

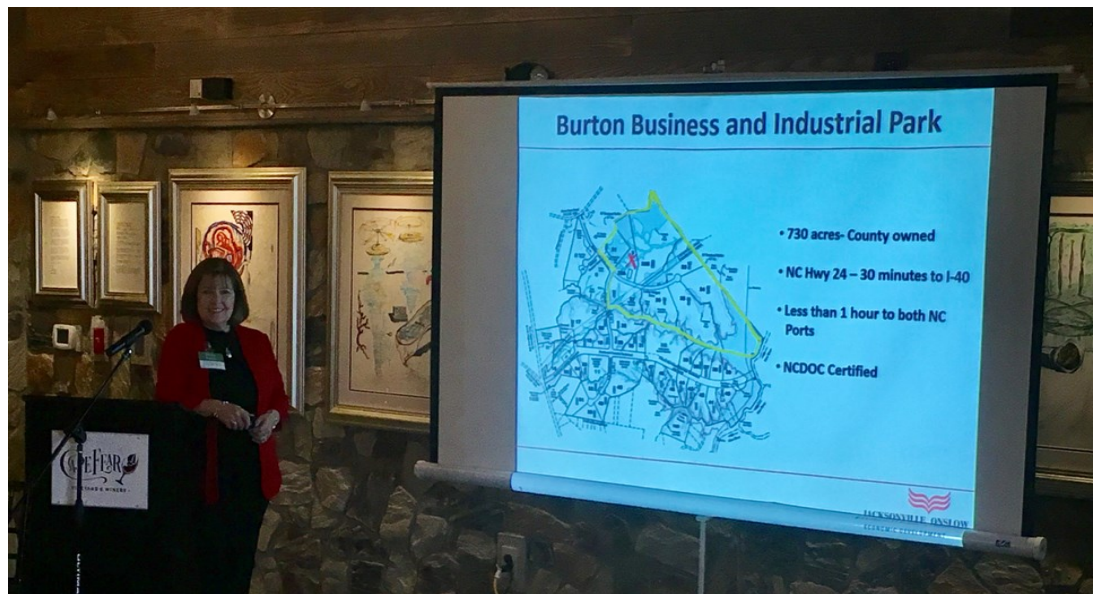
The National Precast Concrete Association's (NPCA) Sustainability Awards recognizes excellence in sustainable products, practices and operations among NPCA members, highlighting the precast concrete industry's continuing commitment to sustainability. In keeping up with the demands of the construction industry, many NPCA members have adopted sustainable practices in their purchasing, manufacturing and shipping operations. Our industry has benefited from their actions, and it is in this spirit that the Sustainability Committee has created the NPCA Sustainability Awards.

Cape Fear Precast of Jacksonville, N.C., earned a first-place award in the National Precast Concrete Association's annual Sustainability Awards competition. The award was given in Cleveland, Ohio, during The Precast Show 2017. The award recognizes the company's work to preserve and restore the submerged aquatic Bonner Bridge ecosystem near Hatteras Island, N.C.

When North Carolina Department of Transportation engineers started planning to replace the aging Bonner Bridge, they called on Cape Fear Precast, an NPCA Certified Plant, to design a precast structure that would reduce wave energy and protect aquatic vegetation and life within the 2.66-acre site. The precaster developed a 500-foot wave break consisting of 101 precast concrete wave attenuators that are designed to become a permanent "living" structure.

The pieces were loaded onto a specially designed barge and lowered with a customized mini excavator around pylons that had been driven to a depth of 20 to 30 feet. This design will help the structure withstand hurricane conditions. Great care and consideration was taken to ensure the surrounding area and marine life were disturbed as little as possible.

"Recognizing companies like Cape Fear Precast for implementing sustainable best practices is important because it reminds us that all parts of the supply chain have valuable contributions to make in reducing environmental impact," said Ty Gable, president of National Precast Concrete Association.



JOED's Community Presentation to EDPNC

Hosted by North Carolina's Southeast Regional Economic Partnership (NCSE) at the Cape Fear Winery in Elizabethtown, the member counties of the NCSE recently had an opportunity to explain what their areas offer in terms of workforce, buildings, and sites to the state recruiters for the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC). They will be able to take this information to trade shows, conventions, and recruiting missions to ensure that North Carolina's assets are known to businesses looking to relocate or expand into the state.

During the JOED presentation, Sheila discussed the available buildings and sites in Burton Business & Industrial Park, Jacksonville Business Park, Camp Davis Industrial Park, and Albert J. Ellis airport. She also explained the county's available workforce—specifically the exiting military personnel. Of particular interest to the EDPNC recruiters was the fact there are over 735,000 people living within a 50-mile radius of Jacksonville and Onslow County. This translates to a larger workforce than the recruiters were aware of and has the potential to make Jacksonville and Onslow County more competitive to projects.

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Existing Industry Spotlight

The City of Jacksonville and Onslow County is home to many major manufacturing and technology-based companies that provide skilled-labor opportunities and income to our community.



Coastal Carolina Cutting Boards is a family business of woodworkers stretching back five generations. The family's history with wood stretches from wood flooring to ornamental pieces on marine crafts. When the recent recession forced owner Tom Dean to look for other revenue streams, he started experimenting with the woods he had available. He soon discovered how a unique blend of woods made a very distinctive style of cutting boards. This is when the hobby he discovered started turning into a serious new business venture.

Coastal Carolina Cutting Boards has a deep commitment to working with Veterans. Nearly 100% of Tom's workforce is a Veteran or directly related to one. However, this is not purely out of good will. Tom has seen the value of hiring Veterans and believes those working with him today are a significant part of the successes of the young company.

Coastal Carolina Cutting Boards recently had the opportunity to support the Girls Leadership Academy of Wilmington (GLOW) annual fundraiser with Giada De Laurentiis. The company has also been highlighted on Time Warner Cable News and WRAL News to discuss the company's recent successes and outreach to the community and Veterans.

Tom and Coastal Carolina Cutting Boards proudly support Kids Making It by donating a portion of each cutting board sale to them. Kids Making It is a nationally recognized 501 (c)(3) nonprofit youth program, teaching woodworking, life, and entrepreneurial skills to at-risk youth from age 8 into young adulthood.



Tom Dean and staff show a few samples of their cutting boards



Did you know?

Coastal Enterprises produces approximately 80,000 blank firing apparatus' (BFA) a year for the M4 Carbine and M16 rifle and is the Defense Logistics Agency's (DLA) sole supplier of BFAs. Every Marine that passes through Jacksonville and Onslow County should be pleased to know that Coastal Enterprises, Inc.—and a neighbor of Camp Lejeune—is a part of their training.

