

## INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDER MEETING RECORD

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**INDUSTRY GROUP:** North Carolina Chamber of Commerce

**DATE:** August 24, 2011

**LOCATION:** Phone Interview

**PARTICIPANTS:** NC Chamber of Commerce                      Maritime Strategy Team  
Catherine Butler    Cindy Camacho  
Jake Cashion

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The Maritime Strategy staff conducted an interview with the NC Chamber of Commerce on August, 24, 2011. The purpose of the interview was to identify primary nodes and facilities used in the shipment of goods in and out of the state. Also to determine any stakeholder concerns or issues related to the transportation of goods.

Major topics presented by the NC Chamber of Commerce included:

- Identified primary nodes - Charlotte Douglas International Airport, GTP, Selma (Colonial Pipeline), PTI, FedEx - Ground in Kernersville & Air at PTI, RDU, Port of Wilmington, Morehead City Port
- Identified top exports - Agricultural/forestry products, textiles, computer/electronic products, transportation equipment, chemical manufacturing | Going to locations nationwide, APEC, Asia, NAFTA, European Union
- Identified top imports - Textiles/apparel redistributed nationwide
- Identified main transportation modes for shipping imports/exports - Mostly truck and train, eastern NC on truck to Norfolk
- Identified future exports - Increased agricultural/forestry products, aircraft parts, mining equipment (CAT), medical devices, green technology manufacturing
- Identified future transportation modes for shipping imports/exports - Mostly truck and train, eastern NC on truck to Norfolk
- Identified other transportation needs - Better access to port (direct interstate route from CLT to Wilmington), commuter rail service from eastern NC to the Triangle, availability of affordable direct passenger flights to/from Triad to nation's major business centers, light rail/commuter rail in the Triangle, and more direct flights to the West Coast
- Identified number one obstacle to economic development - Improvements and widening of I-85 around Charlotte, building the port at Southport - perfect opportunity for Public-Private Partnership, access to the capital from the Triad, completion of I-74, lack of direct flights to the west coast from RDU - difficult to recruit west coast companies to open offices here if there is no ease of transportation