

ASHEVILLE METRO AREA



AEROSPACE

INDUSTRY



566 Companies manufacture products in the four-county Asheville MSA, including a diversity of aerospace products, like engine components, engine composites, avionics, and more.



Asheville-Buncombe County

ASHEVILLEECONOMICDEVELOPMENT.COM

AEROSPACE INDUSTRY FACTS

ASHEVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT (AVL)

 **ONE OF THE
FASTEST-GROWING**

Small hub airport in the U.S.

 **114% INCREASE**

In passenger traffic from 2014-2019 with post-pandemic numbers exceeding 2019 passenger levels

 **OVER 220 ACRES**

Available for development at the AVL Airport

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2021, NORTH CAROLINA CURRENTLY HAS THE
LOWEST CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE IN THE COUNTRY AT **2.5%**

2ND FASTEST GROWING SECTOR

“With 76% growth from 2007 to 2016, North Carolina has the second fastest growing aerospace product and parts manufacturing sector in the United States. More than 1,000 companies make up North Carolina’s aerospace supply chain, including manufacturing, repair & maintenance, and other support services.

— NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



GROWTH RATE

Growth from 2015-2020 in
Aerospace Product and Parts
Manufacturing Employment

89% ▶ Asheville MSA*

15% ▶ North Carolina

6% ▶ United States



**\$5.5B
EXPORTS**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

POPULATION AGE 25+ WITH ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE OR HIGHER

59%

Asheville City

46%

Asheville MSA

38%

60 Mile Radius

42%

United States

UNIVERSITY FACTS

ASHEVILLE MSA

Enrollment 2019: 17,354

Completions 2019: 4,593

(All completions & programs)

UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS

University of North Carolina at Asheville

Western Carolina University

Mars Hill University

A-B Technical Community College

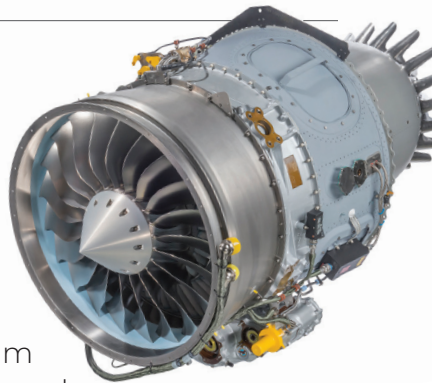
Blue Ridge Community College

Haywood Community College

Warren Wilson College

Montreat College

ADVANCED ENGINEERING PROGRAM



■ The 2+2 Engineering program is offered jointly by NC State and UNC Asheville with disciplines that include Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, and more. Two years are completed at UNCA and two years at NCSU.

■ UNCA and NCSU also jointly offer Mechatronics Engineering. All years are completed in Asheville.

▲ Photography: Courtesy of Pratt & Whitney

TRAINING PROGRAMS

A-B Technical Community College

Machining Center of Excellence

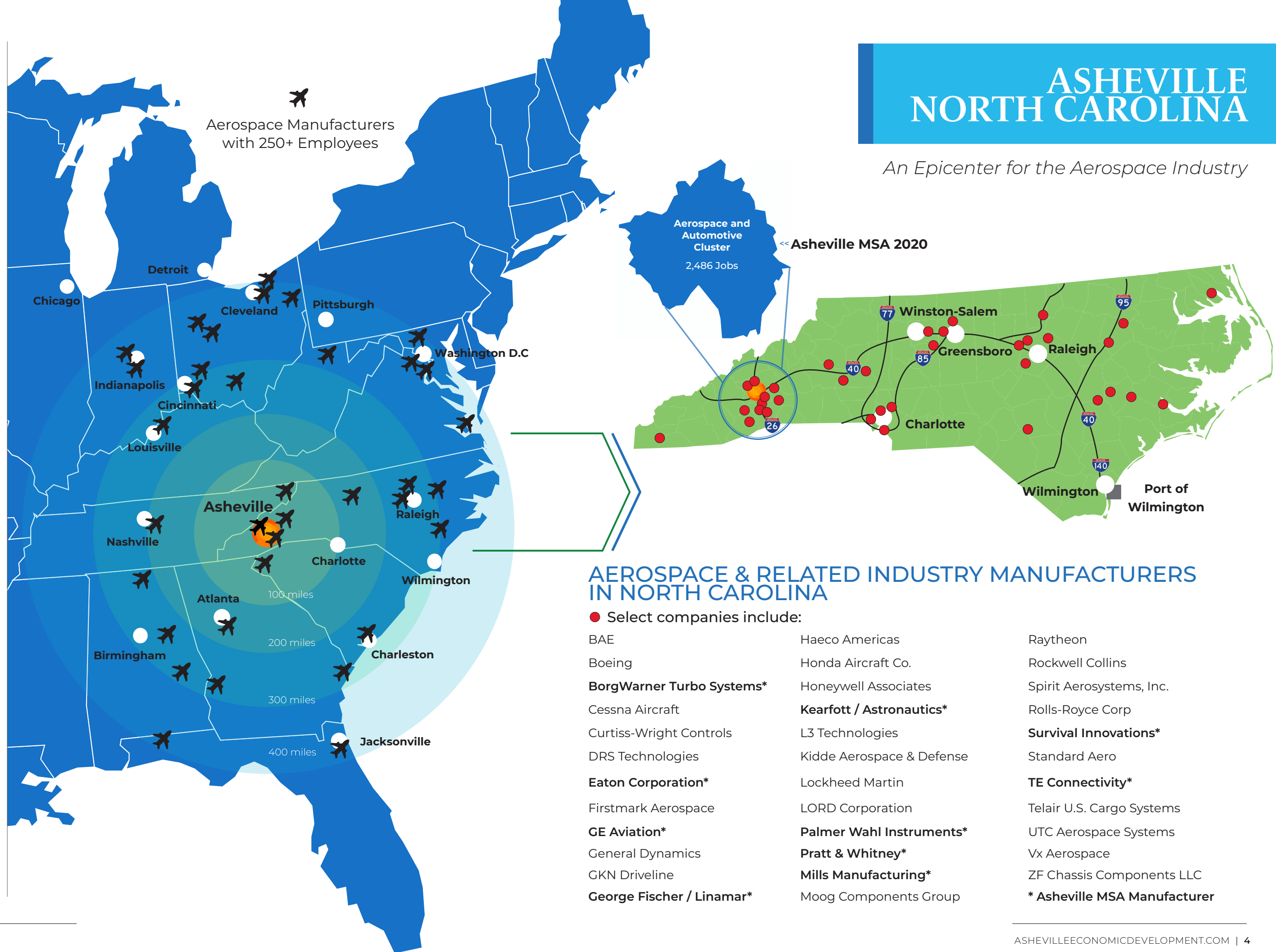
Ceramics Center of Excellence

Blue Ridge Community College

Short-term courses designed to provide critical skills for advanced manufacturing jobs. Three courses are endorsed by Pratt & Whitney.

<< Photography: Courtesy of GE



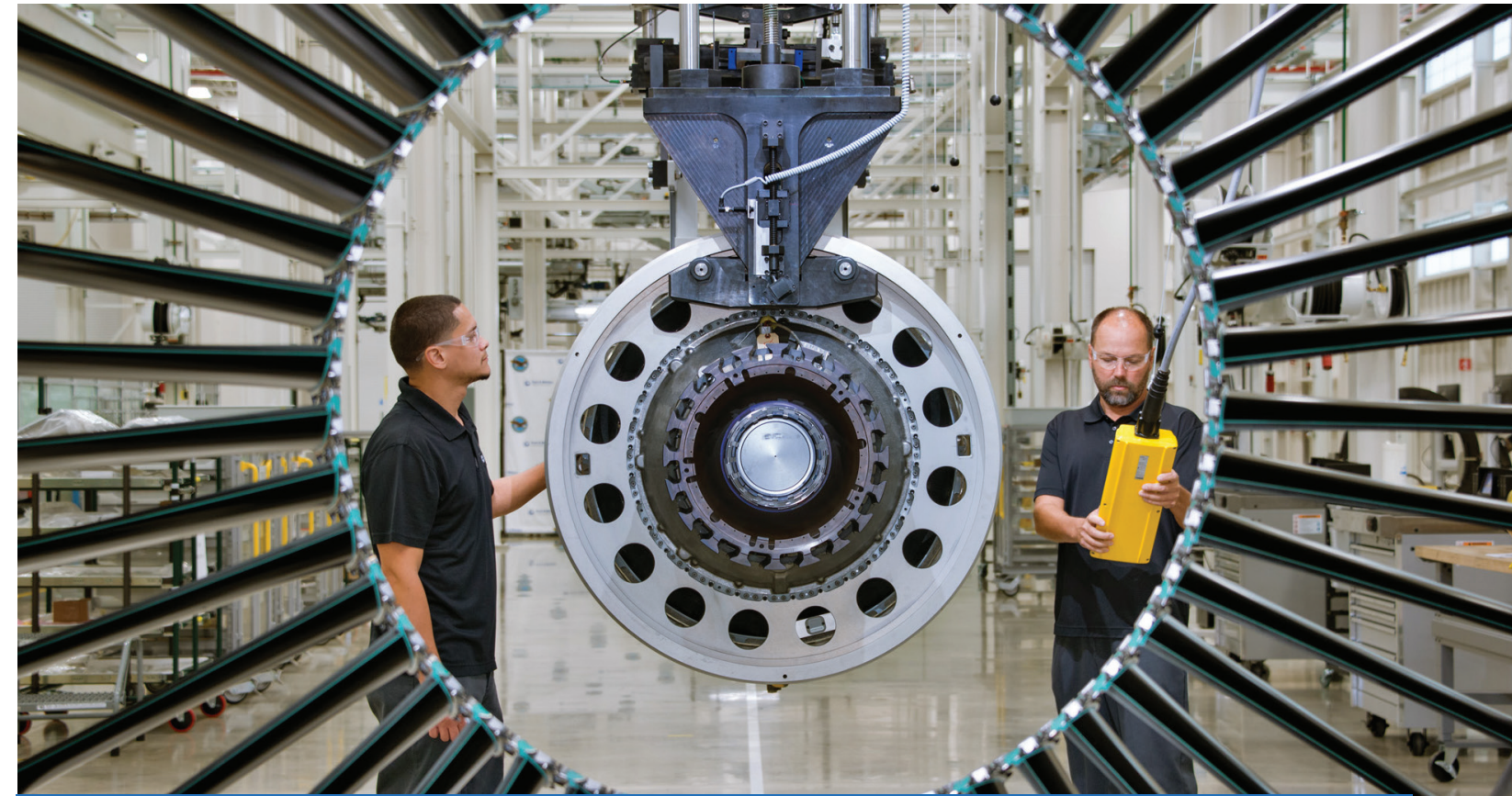


PRATT & WHITNEY ANNOUNCEMENT



Photography (3): Courtesy of Pratt & Whitney

- The Asheville Plant will support the GTF engine platform. With its revolutionary geared turbo fan technology, it is transforming aviation by delivering game-changing performance including a **16%** reduction in fuel consumption, a **75%** reduction in noise footprint and a **50%** reduction in NOx emissions.
- Pratt & Whitney is pursuing LEED silver certification for the **\$650 Million** facility in what will be one of the largest LEED certified manufacturing sites in the South. The standards of the US Green Building Council are recognized globally for best practices in healthy, high efficiency, sustainable building.
- The Asheville Plant is designed for zero-discharge of industrial wastewater with company-wide goals to reduce water consumption, emissions and waste to landfill **10%** by 2025.



FORTUNE 50 AEROSPACE COMPANY PRATT & WHITNEY PLANS TO INVEST IN NEW ASHEVILLE OPERATIONS

Photography: Courtesy of Pratt & Whitney

OCTOBER 22, 2020

Pratt & Whitney announced plans to invest approximately \$650 million through 2027 in a new Buncombe County manufacturing facility. The milestone investment in new building, technology, machinery and equipment is intended to create 800 new positions through 2027 including career opportunities in engineering, technology, production and management.

“This investment will enable Pratt & Whitney to continue to modernize and transform its operations with cutting-edge technologies,” said Chris Calio, president, Pratt & Whitney. “Turbine airfoils are a critical component across our engine portfolio and demand will increase significantly as the market recovers over the next several years. We need to invest today to ensure that we have the infrastructure, production capabilities and workforce in place

to meet future market demand and to provide the best products to our customers worldwide. We are grateful for the support provided by the State of North Carolina and the local community.”

At full buildout, the operations of Pratt & Whitney are intended to create over 800 jobs at average wage of \$68,000, approximately 60% above the average wage in Buncombe County. The company offers a competitive benefits package including participation in the Employee Scholar Program, funding the up-front cost of certifications, 2-year and 4-year degrees for employees and was recognized in 2021 as a ‘Best Place to Work’ by the Human Rights Campaign Corporate Equality Index. The project is expected to generate over \$54 million in new annual labor income for Buncombe County families with hiring expected to begin in late 2021.

GE AVIATION 40 YEARS & GROWING



Scan the QR Code to learn why GE Aviation chose Asheville to produce their critical CMC components that will revolutionize the future of flight.

“We are very pleased to continue expanding our GE Aviation business in Asheville and continue to build on a great workforce, culture and community of Western North Carolina. This merging of technology and a strong, creative workforce is the foundation of our success.”

— MICHAEL MEGUIAR
Asheville Plant Leader, GE Aviation (2018)

GE Aviation is a world-leading provider of jet and turboprop engines, components, and integrated systems for aircraft with a workforce of over 400 in Asheville. In 2013 and 2018 the company invested **\$230,000,000** in its Asheville facility to become the regional center of manufacturing Ceramic Matrix Composites (CMC). CMCs are used in jets and engines, replacing traditional components and materials to provide greater resistance to high temperatures and corrosion. In addition, CMCs provide faster and lighter capabilities to aircraft.

^ Photography: Courtesy of GE Aviation

OTHER MAJOR EMPLOYERS IN THE METRO AREA



Mills Manufacturing is a global leader in manufacturing military parachute systems and components for over 75 years.

Survival Innovations LLC provides design and development services for customers in the aviation life support industry.



Survival Innovations, LLC
Specializing in Human Protective Equipment



TE Connectivity designs and manufactures products at the heart of electronic connections for the automotive, aerospace, and defense industries. In 2013, the Asheville facility expanded by 90 new positions, investing in the global production and engineering capabilities.

A division of Astronautics Corporation of America is a leader in the production of high precision guidance, navigation, and control applications. Kearfott's Motion Systems Division manufactures sophisticated precision rotary components, actuators, electronics, and stabilized sights in Asheville.



Palmer Wahl Instrumental Group is America's first manufacturer of precision industrial temperature and pressure instrumentation, founded in 1836.

MODERN & EXPANDING INFRASTRUCTURE

- New runway completed in 2020, opening new aeronautical development opportunities on the west side of the airfield.
- Significant customer parking added in the past 5 years, including a 1,300 space parking garage and a 300+ space remote shuttle lot.
- New \$230 Million airport terminal in design phase, with groundbreaking slated for late 2022. The new terminal will be twice the size of the current airport, with 12 gates, expanded tenant space and more aircraft parking to accommodate current and future growth.
- Runway length - 8,001 ft.

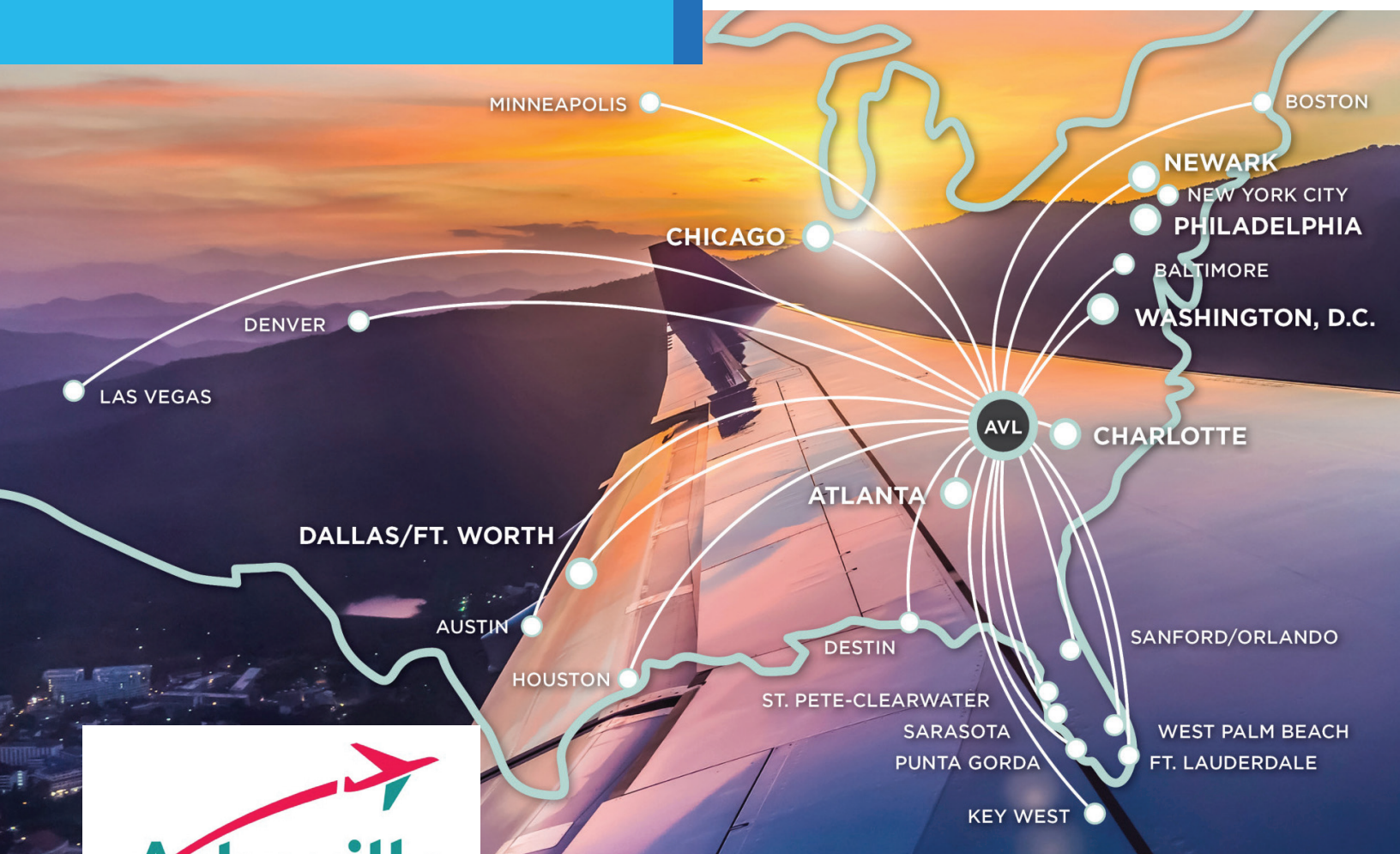
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

- Located on the I-26 Corridor in South Asheville - 15 minutes from downtown Asheville - the Asheville Regional Airport (AVL) is an ideal choice for commercial development.
- AVL is uniquely positioned with infrastructure in place or readily accessible and up to 92 acres with direct taxi-way service for future aeronautical development and an additional 129 for commercial (non-aeronautical) use.
- Long-term land lease and build-to-suit opportunities are available.

PRIME AERONAUTICAL SITES ASHEVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT



DIRECT FLIGHTS



Serviced by 6 National Airlines

American, Delta, United, Allegiant, Jet Blue and Sun Country

*Subject to change;
new flights will continue to be announced*

25 NONSTOP FLIGHTS

- Easy domestic and international air access
- Frequent daily flights, including to eight international hubs
- 25 nonstop destinations and 60-70 flights per day

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



Accredited Economic Development Organization

The Economic Development Coalition (EDC) for Asheville-Buncombe County is a public-private partnership committed to creating and retaining high quality jobs, community leadership, and being a resource for better business decisions. The EDC accomplishes this mission through its four core services: Business Retention and Expansion, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Research, and Marketing and Recruitment.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES: US BEA, US Census Bureau, US DOT, NC Department of Commerce, EMSI, Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority

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