

East Tennessee

Marine Manufacturing

East Tennessee has a strong marine manufacturing industry due to its central location, skilled boat building workforce, abundant lakes, access to advanced materials research and a favorable business climate. There are many major boat manufacturers located in the region

Workforce

- A workforce of 550,000, with over 4,500 workers employed in the marine manufacturing industry (*TN Dept of Labor, June 2008*)
- Marine Institute at Tellico developing a future pipeline of industry experienced experts
- Customized workforce training
- Right-to-work state

Accessibility

- Located at the juncture three major interstates: I-40, I-75, and I-81
- Barge service on the Tennessee - Tombigbee Waterway System, with easy access to the Gulf of Mexico
- Regional airport offering more than 120 flights daily to 19 major U.S. destinations

Technology

- Access to technology research and 16 industrial user facility at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)
- World's premier laboratory in advanced materials

Competitive Business Climate

- Competitive corporate taxes
- Pro-business environment
- Business tax climate in top 1/3 in U.S.
- Electric rates 26% below the U.S. industrial average

Quality of Life

- Cost of living 10% below the national average (*ACCRA 2008 Annual Average Data*)
- No state personal income tax
- Housing costs 23% below the national average (*ACCRA 2008 Annual Average Data*)
- Great Smoky Mountains National Park

