



**SOUTH SHORE**  
Nova Scotia, Canada

# ADVANCED MANUFACTURING



## Advanced Manufacturing on Nova Scotia's South Shore

The South Shore region offers an ideal environment for businesses in the manufacturing sector to grow and thrive. Nova Scotia itself is known to be one of the most cost-effective manufacturing jurisdictions in all of North America, and its ample exporting infrastructure has given rise to a worldwide reputation for outstanding quality and attention to detail. In 2006, the manufacturing sector produced over \$2.6 billion in revenue and has consistently provided 10% of Nova Scotia's GDP for the past twenty years. Within the South Shore, the labour force working in manufacturing jobs is more than double the provincial average, and these workers represent a diversified sector that ranges from aerospace and tires to industrial piping and kitchen counters.

*Within the South Shore, the labour force working in manufacturing jobs is more than double the provincial average*

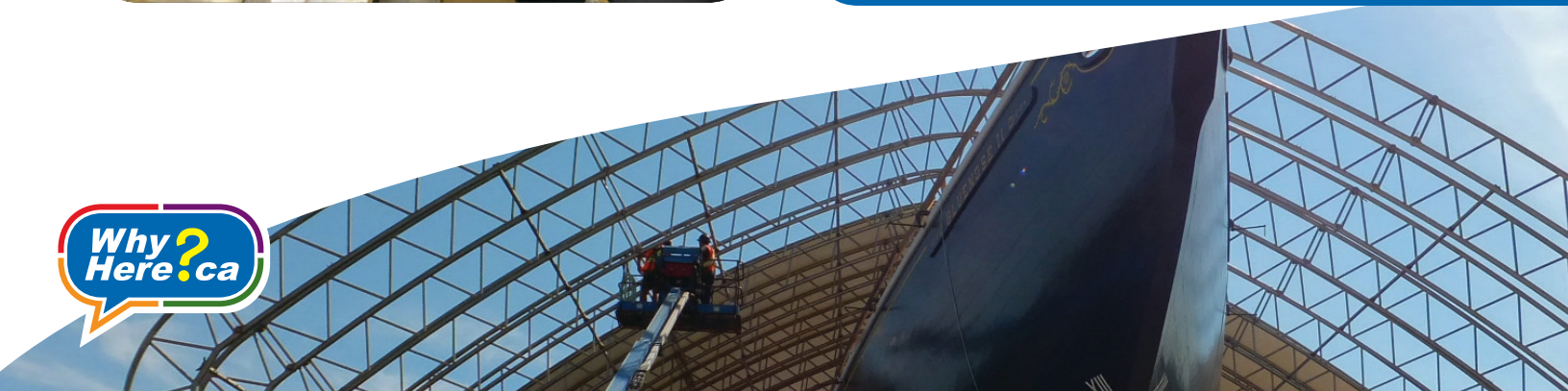
The vast majority of the R&D infrastructure in Nova Scotia is located in the Halifax region in close proximity to businesses in the South Shore. For example, Dalhousie University is the 15th most research intensive university in Canada and the most research intensive in Atlantic Canada.

*The Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) can work with your company to provide training curriculums specific to your needs*

The Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Lunenburg Campus, located within the Town of Bridgewater, has excellent capabilities for the design and delivery of specialized workforce training to suit individual business and industry requirements.

The Advanced Manufacturing industries on the South Shore are comprised of a number of diverse sub-sectors, including:

- » Aerospace and Defense
- » Tire Manufacture
- » Scientific Instruments
- » Panelized Wall Systems
- » Building Supplies
- » Environmental Monitoring Equipment
- » Metals Manufacturing
- » Granite Countertops
- » And much more!





## Workforce

The South Shore is home to a flexible, talented labor force with diverse skill sets, a strong work ethic and a collective dedication to getting the job done right.

The highly competitive costs of labour within the area, made possible by the reasonable cost of living, provide a valuable economic incentive to doing business in the region. This affordable pool of quality labour is expanded by the ease of hiring foreign workers in the province, who may represent skill sets that are in high demand in Nova Scotia.

The region itself hosts a labour pool almost 29,000 strong, and is a short commute for any one of Halifax's 225,000 skilled members of the work force.

## Education Profile

Nationally and internationally, Nova Scotia is known as the "Education Province" of Canada, providing the South Shore with access to some of the best and brightest people in the world on top of a highly skilled and motivated workforce for a wide range of activities.

### Level of Education

| Region/Area                         | Lunenburg County | Queens County | Nova Scotia  | Canada       |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Population 25+</b>               | <b>35,741</b>    | <b>8,213</b>  |              |              |
| <b>At least high school</b>         | <b>69.5%</b>     | <b>63.2%</b>  | <b>76.8%</b> | <b>80.0%</b> |
| <b>Some post-secondary</b>          | <b>50.8%</b>     | <b>41.2%</b>  | <b>56.2%</b> | <b>56.5%</b> |
| <b>University educated</b>          | <b>16.5%</b>     | <b>10.9%</b>  | <b>22.7%</b> | <b>25.9%</b> |
| <b>Post-graduate degree/diploma</b> | <b>4.1%</b>      | <b>2.7%</b>   | <b>6.9%</b>  | <b>7.7%</b>  |

Source: FP Markets: Canadian Demographics 2011

## Income Profile

Households in Lunenburg and Queens counties have a lower average level of income compared to the provincial and national averages. The lower average income levels are balanced by a lower overall cost of living in the region.

### Comparative Income Levels

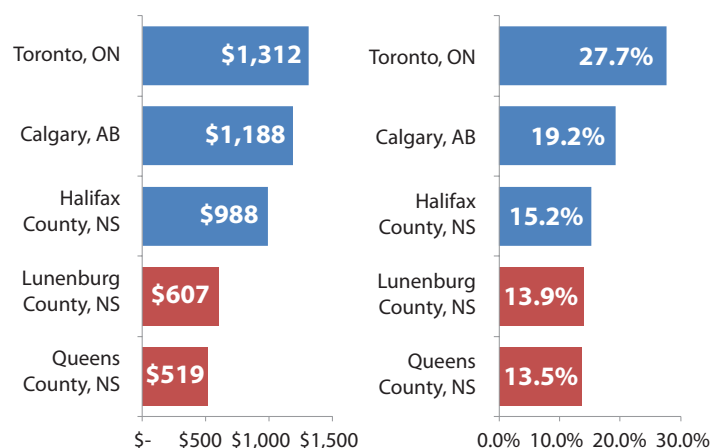
| Region/Area                   | Lunenburg County | Queens County    | Nova Scotia      | Canada           |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Avg. Household Income</b>  | <b>\$ 60,579</b> | <b>\$ 55,380</b> | <b>\$ 68,212</b> | <b>\$ 82,608</b> |
| <b>Avg. Family Income</b>     | <b>\$ 69,443</b> | <b>\$ 59,977</b> | <b>\$ 78,787</b> | <b>\$ 94,284</b> |
| <b>Avg. Per Capita Income</b> | <b>\$ 26,742</b> | <b>\$ 23,362</b> | <b>\$ 28,794</b> | <b>\$ 33,036</b> |

Source: FP Markets: Canadian Demographics 2011

## Housing Costs Comparison

Average Monthly Major Payments - Owned Residences

Owner households spending 30% or more of household income on major payments (% of Total)



Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census



## Active in the Market

- Composites Atlantic Limited
- Louisiana-Pacific Canada Ltd.
- Michelin North America
- GN Thermoforming Equipment
- TecBox International Ltd.
- ABCO Industries Limited
- Allendale Electronics Ltd.
- Bridgewater Metal Industries (BMI) Ltd.
- Classic Granite Countertops
- East Coast Penalized Wall Systems
- Lunenburg Industrial Foundry & Engineering
- HEKA Elektronik
- Nautel Broadcast
- Pro-Oceanus Systems
- DPM Solutions
- RPS Composites
- Bigfoot Systems
- Hawboldt Industries
- J&H Industries Ltd.
- L&B Electric Limited
- The Nodding Group
- Nova Wood Products
- Stevens Solutions & Design

Pro-Oceanus is located in Oceanus House, formerly the courthouse, in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. We see great advantages in being located in Bridgewater where we benefit from highly skilled workers and yet, while we are close to Halifax, we also enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the South Shore.

*Source: Pro-Oceanus Website  
[www.pro-oceanus.com](http://www.pro-oceanus.com)*

## Featured Company Profiles

### ABCO Industries Limited

ABCO's operations are located on the waterfront of the UNESCO World Heritage designated town of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, Canada. ABCO employs approximately 50 highly skilled individuals housed in a 42,000 sq. ft. facility with leading design and fabrication equipment. The companies creates a variety of products such as food processing equipment, aluminum boats, conveying systems, and equipment for compost and recycling plants. They also provided design and fabrication services and supply scales and weighing systems.

[www.abco.ca](http://www.abco.ca)

### Michelin North America

Michelin North America is a \$7.25 billion dollar a year company operating 18 plants in 16 locations and employing 22,270 people. It manufactures and sells tires for airplanes, automobiles, farm equipment, heavy duty trucks, motorcycles, bicycles and the space shuttle. Michelin manufactures tires in six U.S. states: Alabama, Indiana, Ohio, Oklahoma, North Carolina and South Carolina. In addition, there are three Canadian plants in Nova Scotia and one plant in Queretaro, Mexico.

[www.michelin.ca](http://www.michelin.ca)

### Pro-Oceanus Systems

Pro-Oceanus Systems Incorporated (PSI) was founded driven by the need to measure dissolved gases with accuracy and reliability. The company provides world-leading technology in their line of sensors. Measurements of dissolved gases in natural waters provide critical information for monitoring biological production, understanding the dynamics of greenhouse gases, surveying the distribution of pollutants, and determining the health of sensitive ecosystems.

[www.pro-oceanus.com](http://www.pro-oceanus.com)



## Featured Company Profiles Continued

### J&H Industries

J&H Industries started in Milton, Nova Scotia, focusing on manufacturing prefab roof and floor trusses, and is now well known for being the oldest established truss manufacturer in Nova Scotia. The company provides roof truss and floor system design and manufacturing services, as well as whole house building supplies estimation services. They have designers in Halifax and Liverpool which allows them to cover the entire South Shore and beyond.

[www.jandhindustries.ca](http://www.jandhindustries.ca)

### RPS Composites

The RPS Group of Companies designs and manufactures composite corrosion resistant pipe systems and process equipment. From material selection through component design, stress analysis, manufacturing, shipping, installation, and maintenance, the RPS Group provides the full composite installation. They have 4 locations in the United States (Virginia, Ohio, Utah, Alabama) and 2 locations in Canada (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia)

[www.rpscomposites.com](http://www.rpscomposites.com)

### GN Thermoforming Equipment

GN Thermoforming Equipment is recognized around the world as one of the foremost manufacturers of thermoformers, plastic packaging machines and tooling. The companies reputation for quality and attention to customer service has made them the supplier of choice for leading manufacturers of plastic packaging in more than 60 countries worldwide.

[www.gnplastics.com](http://www.gnplastics.com)

### East Coast Panelized Wall Systems

East Coast Panelized Wall Systems manufactures prefabricated wall systems, combining time-tested building methods with modern computerized technology. Their wall systems are built in a quality and climate controlled environment which delivers customizable, energy efficient products for beautiful new homes and structures. Computerized cutting and marking provides better detailing, improving durability and air-tightness when installed on site.

[www.eastcoastpanelizedwalls.com](http://www.eastcoastpanelizedwalls.com)

### Composites Atlantic Limited

Composites Atlantic Limited has earned a reputation as a leader in the design, development and manufacturing of advanced composites for the aeronautic, space and defense industries. We have been present in both the national and international market since 1988. Our team of over 415 personnel serves our customer base with experience in project management, engineering, design, development, testing, procurement, quality assurance and manufacturing.

[www.compositesatlantic.com](http://www.compositesatlantic.com)

### HEKA Elektronik

For over forty years HEKA has designed and manufactured sophisticated instrumentation and software for biomedical and Industrial research applications. Through the years HEKA has achieved an unparalleled reputation for precision and quality. Most medical, pharmaceutical and industrial research facilities worldwide rely on HEKA ingenuity for their discoveries.

[www.heka.com](http://www.heka.com)





## Geographic Advantages

Geographically, the South Shore is ideally situated for the advanced manufacturing sector. Located at the half-way point between the Western United States and Europe allows business to easily be conducted on both continents in the same day thanks to the Atlantic Time Zone (EST + 1 hour).

The region is also close to major shipping and distribution routes; both air, land and sea. The entire area is serviced by a modern 100-series highway infrastructure, as well as many well-maintained secondary roads and is strategically located in proximity to Halifax's Stanfield international airport and, due to its history as a fisheries hub, a number of major port facilities and harbour authorities.

Only an hour away from most points in the South Shore, the Port of Halifax is one of the largest commercial ports in Canada, handling more than 14 million metric tonnes of cargo per year.



The port of Halifax represents one of the world's deepest ice-free ports, with minimal tides and currents. It is the only port on the east coast that can accept fully-loaded post-Panamax container ships and boasts a high-speed of cargo transfer. Halifax is one day closer to southeast Asia than any other North American east coast container port.



## Regional Advantages

The South Shore is home to one of the most moderate climates in all of Canada, with seasons that bring both sun and snow, without any of the extremes. From summer months basking on the warm beaches, to crisp winter days spent skiing or ice-fishing, the environment offers something to be enjoyed any time of year. This temperate climate also means the South Shore offers a year-round construction season.

Within the South Shore, both the Federal and Provincial governments offer a wide range of programs and incentives to assist in the establishment and growth of local business. Companies in the South Shore are able to access a wide variety of R&D programming including the Atlantic Innovation Fund which has been a source of funding for several South Shore companies in recent years. There is also a strong network of non-governmental organizations of business professionals and support services that comprise a pool of experienced individuals and resources eager to assist in growing local business.

*Total labour costs can make up over 50 percent of a manufacturing facility's costs and as much as 80 percent of a service firm's total operating costs. The lower wage and salary costs (combined with lower fringe benefit costs) in the South Shore are very attractive to companies that are looking to establish facilities in a moderate cost environment. Plus, companies still have all of the advantages of a North American location such as the quality workforce, close proximity to markets, stable governments, low inflation, as well as a beautiful place to live.*

The region is ideally positioned to take advantage of spin-off opportunities created by the Irving Shipbuilding contracts. With a \$25 billion federal shipbuilding contract awarded to the Halifax Shipyard (and repair work happening at Shelburne Ship Repair) the South Shore is positioned to be in the "ship building and repair corridor" between the two locations.

## Further Information

To learn more about our area or to enquire about your business related matters, contact

[info@whyhere.ca](mailto:info@whyhere.ca)

Or visit our website at  
[www.WhyHere.ca](http://www.WhyHere.ca)



**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING**  
**For further information please contact:**

[info@whyhere.ca](mailto:info@whyhere.ca)

Or visit our website at  
**[www.WhyHere.ca](http://www.WhyHere.ca)**

