

logistics

[Download PDF](#)**Jacksonville now home to one-million-square-foot distribution center.**

Bridgestone Firestone has expanded with a new distribution center at Jacksonville's Cecil Commerce Center. The center is one of the largest Bridgestone Firestone distribution centers in the country and will supply the United States with products and tires from Latin America, Japan and other Asian countries.

The expansion will provide an economic boost with the creation of more than 250 direct new jobs and the indirect creation of more than 220 new jobs in the transportation and maritime sectors at JAXPORT.

Jacksonville was selected for its strategic location near JAXPORT, which enables overnight delivery to more than 96 percent of Bridgestone Firestone's customers.

"We are extremely proud to have Bridgestone Firestone as a key customer to expand the success of JAXPORT." — Roy

Jacksonville has become one of the nation's foremost locations for logistics companies and is poised to become a leading international center for trade and logistics. Located on the westernmost point on the Eastern Seaboard, the region is ideally situated within an eight-hour drive of the 45 million consumers in the Southeast. Northeast Florida also boasts an intermodal system that is second to none, a well-established Latin American trade lane presence and rapidly expanding Asian and European service.

Northeast Florida's Competitive Advantages

You simply won't find another location that offers the combination of attributes that Northeast Florida delivers. Here, you'll find a diverse workforce that is well trained and ready to work, available sites in close proximity to an extensive transportation network and one of the country's best intermodal systems, which is capable of moving cargo in virtually any direction. It's why companies like CEVA Logistics, Crowley Logistics Services, APL, Landstar Systems and CSX Intermodal have located here. It's what your company needs to build the strong, reliable distribution systems necessary to excel in your industry.

Northeast Florida Workforce

- Regional Population: 1,457,666
- Area workforce exceeds 750,000 people
- More than 40,000 employed in distribution/warehousing-related occupations
- More than 3,000 highly trained personnel exit or retire from military service yearly, and 80 percent of those choose to stay in Jacksonville
- The logistics program at the University of North Florida's Coggin College of Business ranked in the top 25 in terms of institutional thought leadership in the spring 2007 journal of *Supply Chain Management*

Sea

- Regional ports include the Port of Fernandina Beach and the three JAXPORT marine terminals: Talleyrand, Blount Island and Dames Point
- JAXPORT offers superior infrastructure for high-volume distribution with no capacity pressures, substantial expansion capability and no berth congestion
- In 2007, JAXPORT's total cargo tonnage exceeded 8.3 million tons and is projected to more than double by 2010
- The region is ranked in the top 10 in terms of port capabilities by *Logistics Today*



Schleicher, senior director of trade development, marketing and customer service

Rankings

Ranked a Five Star Logistics Metro – *Logistics Today*, October 2007

Ranked one of the Top 50 Hottest Cities in the U.S. – *Expansion Management*, February 2007

Ranked a Top 10 Economic Development Hot Spot – *Expansion Management*, September 2007

Why Jacksonville?

- Business-friendly tax climate
- 16.7 million square feet of industrial space announced or under construction since 2005
- Competitive and customized incentive packages
- Lowest cost of living of any major Florida metro area
- Young, dynamic workforce with a median age of 37.6 – almost equal to the national average



Logistics Average Wages

- Air Transportation – \$53,221
- Rail Transportation – \$93,711
- Water Transportation – \$88,373
- Port and Harbor Operations – \$92,011
- Marine Cargo Handling – \$30,712
- Freight Transportation Arrangement – \$72,313

Asian Shipping Thrives

In 2008, the first Mitsui O.S.K. Lines cargo ship arrived in Jacksonville six months earlier than anticipated. The arrival of this ship marked the culmination of a four-year-long project to connect the First Coast directly to the burgeoning Asian shipping market. Mitsui's \$250 million terminal is expected to be completed by the end of the year and will broaden the direct shipping line between Northeast Florida and Asia.

Land

- Northeast Florida is at the intersection of three major Southeast transportation arteries – I-10, I-95 and I-75
- The region is served by three major rail lines: Jacksonville-based CSX Transportation, Norfolk Southern and Florida East Coast
- There are more than 100 truck terminals in the region and companies enjoy attractive backhaul rates
- Truck shipments reach more than 50 percent of the U.S. population on second-day delivery
- Northeast Florida ranks in the top 10 percent of all U.S. cities in terms of roadway infrastructure and railroad access

Air

- Jacksonville International Airport serves 36 major U.S. airports with nonstop flights
- An extensive network of major air freight companies moves millions of pounds of air cargo through JIA each year
- The area ranks in the top 20 percent of U.S. cities for air transportation



Let Cornerstone Help You

Let our professional staff assist you with your next logistics relocation or expansion. We can help you identify available financial incentives.

Research relevant zoning, permitting and governmental processes. Locate customized demographic and labor market information. Find the right industrial building, site or office space and conduct personal site inspection tours. And introduce you to established business and industry management.

For more in-depth information, contact Cornerstone at 904.366.6639, email bizrelo@jacksonvillechamber.org or visit www.ExpandinJax.com.

