

Software

CONNECTED IN SOUTH LOUISIANA



South Louisiana provides a unique fiber-optic network and homegrown software engineering talent that continues to attract the world's newest and most innovative software companies. Major software investments in the region include:



As an anchor tenant of the 143-acre Research Park of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, **CGI Group Inc.** occupies a new \$13.1 million, 50,000 SQ FT state-of-the-art facility designed to

bring world-class IT consulting capabilities to its international client base.



Perficient is a leading IT and management consulting firm serving large enterprise customers throughout North America. It chose downtown Lafayette for a domestic delivery center (DDC) in 2014.



In 2013, **Global Data Systems** launched a teleport facility at its corporate headquarters adjacent to its Tier 4 hardened datacenter facility. Using Lafayette's robust fiber-optic network, it

offers a full suite of telecommunications, datacenter, and satellite teleport services.

A Better Bottom Line

#1

WORKFORCE
TRAINING LEADERS

#7

BEST COST OF DOING
BUSINESS

#1

CYBERSECURITY
GROWTH POTENTIAL

#10

LOWEST INDUSTRIAL
ELECTRICITY RATES

According to Business Facilities 2017 Louisiana Rankings

BOLD INCENTIVES

Acadiana values its software industry, connecting state and local resources to provide customized incentive packages for growing businesses. Some standard incentives include:

Digital Interactive Media and Software Development Tax Credit

- 25% tax credit on qualified payroll for in-state labor
- 18% for qualified production expenditures

Louisiana Quality Jobs Rebate

- Up to 6% cash rebate on 80% of gross payroll for new direct jobs

Research and Development Tax Credit

- Up to 40% tax credit on qualified research expenditures incurred in Louisiana

Qualified Entertainment Company (QEC)

- 15% credit for QEC payroll of \$45,000 - \$66,000 per year
- 20% credit for QEC payroll of \$66,000 - \$200,000 per year

* For each new job created

CONTACT

To learn more about the competitive advantages Acadiana has to offer, contact **Zach Hager**, Director, Business Development, at **337.408.3669** or Zach@OneAcadiana.org.



804 E. St. Mary Blvd. | Lafayette, LA 70503 | 337.408.3669 | SouthLouisiana.org

“Lafayette’s unparalleled fiber-optic network, paired with strong partnerships between innovative businesses and local educators to build a talented homegrown workforce, made choosing Acadiana as the location of CGI’s fourth U.S. onshore IT services Center of Excellence an easy choice.”

WILLIAM LABAR
Vice President of Consulting Services, CGI

Quality Workforce

A right-to-work state for more than three decades, Louisiana ranks in the Top 10 for lowest rates of private workforce unionization. It is also home to LED FastStart, the nation’s No. 1 state workforce development program, which creates customized workforce recruitment, screening, and training solutions – at no cost to eligible companies.

A number of Louisiana universities have specific programs and research strengths related to the software industry, with one of the strongest and fastest-growing right here in Acadiana. In order to meet and exceed the workforce demands of multiple new software companies in the region, UL Lafayette created a state-funded, 10-year, \$4.5-million initiative that will triple the number of degrees awarded annually by its College of Computing and Informatics.

ACCESS TO AN INGENUOUS, LOYAL WORKFORCE


692,626
ACADIANA REGION
POPULATION

1.8 MILLION
PEOPLE WITHIN
A 75-MILE
RADIUS OF
LAFAYETTE 

Acadiana offers work-life balance, with an accent on life.

Finding and retaining talent is key to your business’ success. Increasingly, quality of life has become the deciding factor for many job seekers; however, living in Acadiana is easy.

Acadiana is a constellation of communities with a plentiful economy, growing job market, world-class healthcare system, great schools, and all the entertainment and cultural options of a big city but with far less stress. From the bustling heart of Lafayette to the quaint historic cities of Crowley, Abbeville, and Franklin, Acadiana offers everything from urban living to idyllic country retreats.

**FASTEST
INTERNET**
IN THE WORLD
2 GIGS
PER SECOND




Let our culture shape your life.

Providing candidates an accurate snapshot of our excellent quality of life can be challenging for employers.

One Acadiana’s **talent attraction program** is built to cater to companies seeking a customized recruitment and relocation service for candidates or newly-hired personnel to showcase and sell our community.

Our team will provide **personalized information unique to the individual candidate and community tours with a local’s prospective that highlights the region’s assets**, demonstrating why there has never been a better time to call Acadiana home.

Maritime

SOUTH LOUISIANA PROPELS BUSINESS



Significant marine operations ranging from shipbuilding to offshore telecommunication take advantage of this South-Central Louisiana location known as Acadiana. With a business-friendly climate and prime position along the Gulf of Mexico, our region is where businesses relocate to thrive.



METAL SHARK
METALSHARKBOATS.COM

Metal Shark is a leading shipbuilder specializing in the design and production of boats and ships from its two locations in South Louisiana.

Metal Shark offers purpose-built vessels for defense and security, law enforcement, fire rescue, pilot associations and port operators, passenger ferry and excursion boat operators, and many other commercial markets.



Global Data Systems (GDS) is an industry leader in providing communications, IT and security solutions to the maritime services

industry, including oil/gas, transportation, and other maritime sectors for the past 10 years. GDS can bring voice and data to any rig, workboat or inland marine fleet to connect anyone, anything, anywhere, anytime.



Incat Crowther

Incat Crowther offers a diverse range of solutions for demanding applications, with an emphasis on efficiency, reliability, safety, and practicality. They offer an experienced staff with a variety of skills and disciplines, and can offer an unparalleled range of services.

A Better Bottom Line

#10

LOWEST INDUSTRIAL
ELECTRICITY RATES

#7

BEST COST OF DOING
BUSINESS

#1

SPEED FOR
PERMITTING

#4

FAVORABLE REGULATORY
ENVIRONMENT

According to Business Facilities 2017 Rankings

Productive & Plentiful Talent

Companies can find the talent they need thanks to the growing workforce in the region, competitive wages, and a strong pipeline fueled by **specialized classroom instruction and practical training** in area institutions such as the University of Louisiana, Louisiana State University, and South Louisiana Community College. **SLCC's Corporate College offers a Maritime program emphasizing safe and efficient work practices and occupational skills.**

CONTACT

To learn more about the competitive advantages Acadiana has to offer, contact **Rebecca Shirley**, Director, Business Development, at **337.408.3671** or Rebecca@OneAcadiana.org.



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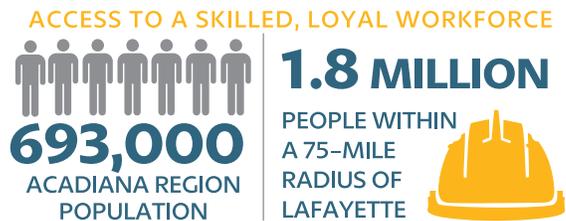
“ The Acadiana Region [in South Louisiana] offers more than essential waterway access and ideal space for the marine industry’s growth and development. With the area’s qualified workforce and strong business environment, we’ve seen our ship building enterprise thrive and expand. ”

CHRIS ALLARD
CEO, Metal Shark

Loyal Workforce

A right-to-work state for more than three decades, Louisiana ranks in the **Top 10 for lowest rates of private workforce unionization**. It’s also home to LED FastStart, the nation’s **No. 1 state workforce development program**. This program creates customized workforce recruitment, screening, and training solutions – at no cost to eligible companies.

Built on the backbone of agriculture and the oil and gas industry, the workforce is praised by local employers as hard-working, ingenious, and highly loyal.



Connected to the World



The world knows us as Cajun Country.
Locals call us Acadiana.

We are South Louisiana.

REGIONAL ASSETS

Acadiana, a logistical hub, is strategically located at the intersection of Interstates 10 and 49, providing access to 38 interior states via the Mississippi River and countless international markets via the Gulf of Mexico.

Within the Acadiana region alone are:

- 5 coastal ports
- 2 inland ports
- 2 Class I rail systems
- 2 commercial airports

Rich Culture & “Joie de Vivre” Lifestyle

There’s a reason The New York Times calls the Acadiana region, “the last cohesive cultural enclave in the United States.” Steeped in the rich history and culture, Acadiana’s residents live by a “work hard, play hard” ethos and place a high priority on family, friends, food and music.