

# export

## Georgia-Mexico Connection

Updated: June 22, 2010

### GOVERNMENT & COMMERCE



The Consulate General of Mexico, located in Atlanta, has jurisdiction over the states of Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee. The Consulate was established in 1977 and became a full Consulate General in 1992. Mr. Salvador de Lara serves as the Consul General.

In May 2008, ProMexico, a new agency within the Mexican government opened an office in Atlanta. The agency assists companies with exporting and investment opportunities in Mexico. The Atlanta office promotes the southeastern U.S. market, and helps companies discover the many opportunities that Atlanta offers as a strategic gateway to the Southeast.



The Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was founded in Atlanta in 1984. The Chamber promotes domestic and international economic development of Hispanic businesses and Hispanic business people and serves as a link between businesses in Latin America and those in Georgia. The organization seeks to bring the issues and concerns of the growing number of Hispanic entrepreneurs to the forefront of Georgia's economic agenda.

Georgia has had an office in Mexico since 1993. In January 2006, the office's focus changed from strictly a trade office to an international office representing Georgia's broader economic development interests, including trade, investment, tourism and film. The office is located in Mexico City and is managed by Caroline Verút.



The Mexican American Business Chamber is a non-profit organization that promotes the economic development within Georgia's Mexican community, and a partnership between Hispanic and non-Hispanic business, associations, and government. Alejandro Coss serves as the president of the chamber.

### TRADE RELATIONSHIP

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between the United States, Canada and Mexico took effect in 1994.

Mexico ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> among Georgia's export destination partners, with 2009 exports totaling more than \$1.3 billion. Georgia's top exports to Mexico include: wood pulp, machinery, aircraft, and plastic. Georgia's exports of cosmetic and perfume products to Mexico increased by 99% from the previous year.

In 2009, Georgia imported \$2.9 billion of goods from Mexico. Top imports from Mexico included: electrical machinery, paper products, and precious stones/metals.

### CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Georgia companies with operations in Mexico:

Acuity Brands

AFC Enterprises

Arris Group, Inc.

Brand Energy & Infrastructure Services Inc.

Cajun Operating Company

CIBA Vision Group

Coca-Cola Company

Consolidated Container Company LLC

Cooper Wiring Devices Inc.

CP Kelco

Crawford & Company

Delta Air Lines Inc.

EIS Inc.

ET3, LLC

Exide Technologies

Georgia-Pacific Corp.



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Global Payments Inc.  
The Home Depot Inc.  
Hooters of America  
Infor Global Solutions  
Kurt Salmon Associates (KSA)  
Kysor Warren Group  
Manhattan Associates Inc.  
Markem Imaje  
Newell Rubbermaid Inc.  
Onity  
Pratt Industries USA  
PRG-Schultz International Inc.

Printpack Inc.  
Recall Corporation  
Rock-Tenn Company  
Russell Corporation  
Southwire Company  
Spectrum Brands Inc.  
Swift Gale  
United Parcel Service Inc.  
UPS Supply Chain Solutions  
Weg Electric Motors Corp.  
Zyman Group



Mexican capital investment in Georgia totaled \$19.3 million, and Mexican-owned companies employed more than 600 Georgians.

Mexican companies with operations in Georgia:

AeroMéxico  
Binswanger Glass Company  
CEMEX USA Inc.  
CME Wire & Cable  
Interceramic Tile & Stone Gallery  
Latin American Pay Television

Mission Foods  
Murzan Inc.  
Ocean Garden Products Inc.  
Roca Food Sales Inc.  
Softtek



### TRANSPORTATION

Delta Air Lines and AeroMéxico offer multiple direct flights from Atlanta to Cancun, Monterrey, Guadalajara, Mexico City, and Puerto Vallarta.

Mexico-based air carrier Mas Air offers cargo flights between Mexico City and Atlanta once a week.

Autobuses Adame offers bus service from Georgia locations to Houston and connecting service to locations all over Mexico. The service has locations all over the southern U.S. and is designed especially for low-income migrant workers.

### COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

There are approximately 417,000 Mexicans residing in Georgia (US Census Bureau: American Community Survey).

There are 861 students from Mexico attending University System of Georgia (USG) institutions (Fall 2006). Twenty-two institutions offer study abroad/exchange programs to Mexico. USG institutions that have partnerships with Mexican institutions include: Columbus State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University, University of Georgia, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Southern University and Valdosta State University.

