

export

GEORGIA-BELGIUM CONNECTION

GOVERNMENT & COMMERCE

Atlanta is home to the Consulate General of the Kingdom of Belgium. Mr. Benoît Standaert serves as Consul General. The consulate covers Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and all but two counties in Kentucky and provides visa and passport services and promote economic and cultural cooperation with the Southeast U.S.

The Belgian-American Chamber of Commerce (BACC), which has its managerial center located in New York City, maintains a chapter in Atlanta. Mr. Werner Boel serves as the Executive Director of the board. A not-for-profit organization, the BACC formed in 1918 as a result of the growing commerce between Belgium and the United States.

The Flanders Investment & Trade Agency, located in Atlanta, promotes sustainable international business in the interest of both Flanders-based companies and overseas enterprises. Mr. Ludwig Van den Bossche serves as the Trade Commissioner for the Atlanta location.

The Walloon Foreign Trade Board in Atlanta promotes trade and investment between the southeastern U.S. and the Wallonia region of Belgium. Ms. Djazia Filoso serves as Trade Representative for the Board.

Atlanta has a sister city relationship with Brussels; and the city of Dalton, GA, has a sister city relationship with Dilbeek, Belgium. The mission of the Atlanta Sister Cities Commission is to increase the knowledge, goodwill, and understanding of the world through people-to-people diplomacy, education, cultural and economic exchanges, and humanitarian assistance.

TRADE RELATIONSHIP

TRADE BALANCE

In 2010, the trade surplus between Georgia and Belgium equaled \$207.3 million.

EXPORTS

In 2010, Georgia exports to Belgium totaled close to \$595 million, which was a 3% increase over 2009.



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Belgium is the 13th largest export market for Georgia; down from the 10th position in 2009.



| RANK | COUNTRY | 2010 | % OF TOTAL | % CHANGE OVER '09 |
|------|-----------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|
| | _World | 28,703,999,535 | 100 | 20.89 |
| 1 | Canada | 4,879,113,299 | 17 | 18.57 |
| 2 | China | 2,393,007,626 | 8.34 | 35.29 |
| 3 | Mexico | 1,943,784,646 | 6.77 | 42.97 |
| 4 | Japan | 1,196,796,867 | 4.17 | 9.72 |
| 5 | Germany | 1,017,128,864 | 3.54 | 0.21 |
| 6 | United Kingdom | 989,392,378 | 3.45 | -18.66 |
| 7 | Brazil | 849,587,341 | 2.96 | 44.15 |
| 8 | Singapore | 795,411,075 | 2.77 | 28.8 |
| 9 | Netherlands | 759,954,912 | 2.65 | 14.82 |
| 10 | Hong Kong | 734,897,203 | 2.56 | 32.24 |
| 11 | Korean Republic | 631,477,970 | 2.2 | 39.34 |
| 12 | Australia | 606,194,739 | 2.11 | 29.36 |
| 13 | Belgium | 594,046,518 | 2.07 | 3 |

Top exports to Belgium include:

- medical instruments
- plastic
- machinery
- woodpulp
- chemical products

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Belgium:

- thermometers
- petro resins
- electric generating sets
- TV receivers
- salt, sulfur, earth, and stone
- gas turbines (2nd)
- woodpulp (2nd)
- computers (3rd)
- kaolin (3rd)
- coated paper (3rd)

IMPORTS

In 2010, Georgia's imports from Belgium totaled close to **\$387 million** (up 7% over 2009). The country is 23rd among Georgia's top import markets.

Top imports included: electrical machinery and equipment; plastics, inorganic chemicals and rare earth minerals; and textile floor coverings.





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CAPITAL INVESTMENT

There are more than 25 Georgia companies with operations in Belgium.

There are close to 75 Belgian facilities operating in Georgia, including 20 manufacturing locations. The Belgian-affiliated companies employ close to 5,500 Georgians.

Note: Please see the appendix for a complete list of the facilities.

TRANSPORTATION

Delta currently offers direct flights from Atlanta to Brussels, Belgium.

The Port of Savannah has ten services that ship weekly to Belgium: APL, Atlantic Container Line, Hyundai, Mitsui OSK, Maersk, CMA CGM, Hapag Lloyd, NYK, OOCL, and Mediterranean Shipping. Also, one service that ships every 10 days to Zeebrugge.

COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

According to the Census Bureau's 2005-2007 American Community Survey, 4,200 Georgians claim Belgian Ancestry.

Atlanta is home to the Belgian Club of Atlanta (BCA). The BCA seeks to give Belgians living in and around the Atlanta the opportunity to come together and keep the spirit of the Belgian culture alive. The BCA organizes at least one event per month and makes an effort to put together both family-oriented and adult events.

During the Fall 2006 semester, the University System of Georgia had 24 students from Belgium enrolled.



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APPENDIX

Georgia companies with operations in Belgium include (highlights):

- CDC SOFTWARE, INC.
- CIBA VISION CORPORATION
- COX ENTERPRISES, INC.
- CP KELCO
- CRAWFORD & COMPANY
- EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES
- GEORGIA-PACIFIC CORPORATION
- IMMUCOR, INC.
- INFOR GLOBAL SOLUTIONS
- INTERFACE, INC.
- INTERFLOW SYSTEMS CONSULTING, INC.
- INVESCO LTD.
- KIMBERLY-CLARK HEALTH CARE
- LXE INC.
- MANHEIM
- MERAL LTD.
- MICROMERITICS INSTRUMENT CORPORATION
- NEWELL RUBBERMAID INC.
- POLYVISION CORPORATION
- PRGX GLOBAL
- RECALL CORPORATION
- S1 CORPORATION
- SPECTRUM BRANDS INC.
- THE COCA-COLA COMPANY
- UNITED PARCEL SERVICE INC.
- UPS SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS
- WEG ELECTRIC MOTORS CORPORATION
- YKK CORPORATION OF AMERICA

Belgian companies with operations in Georgia include (highlights):

- Ateliers Francois SA
- ABX Logistics, SA
- Arinso International NV
- Balta Industries NV
- Barco NV
- BDO Global Coordination BV
- NV Bekaert SA
- Berry Group NV
- Bosal International NV
- Cappelle Pigments N
- Clear2Pay NV/SA
- Coosemans Belgium
- Delhaize GROUP
- De Smet Technologies & Services
- D'leteren Sa
- EBACO International PVBA
- Elsyca Nv
- Gilbos NV
- Godiva Belgium SA
- Innogenetics, NV
- IPTE NV
- KBC Bankverzekering Holding NV
- Keppel Seghers Belgium
- Net Expat
- NMC SA
- Nomainvest Sa
- OM Partners NV
- Open HR SA/NV
- Option NV
- Prayon SA
- Resilux NV
- Rhj International Sa
- Safmarine Container Lines
- Solvay SA
- Open HR SA/NV
- Taminco NV
- UCB SA
- Unibind Systems

