

COLD CHAIN STORAGE



Case Study

Well-trained workforce results in low staff turnover for Nordic



As a result of the frigid working conditions in cold storage warehouses that are kept between zero and negative 20 degrees Fahrenheit, most cold chain companies experience a 20-25 percent turnover rate. However, the turnover rate at Nordic's Savannah facility is just 10 percent. The 200,000-square-foot operation opened with the assistance of Georgia's Quick Start program, which provided customized workforce training and professional development that has helped the company retain knowledgeable employees.

"In the event we have an opportunity to leverage the Quick Start program again, I wouldn't hesitate," said Ross Maple, Director of Business Strategy, Nordic — one of the nation's largest cold storage warehouse companies. "The value it brings throughout the life of a business is paramount."

In addition to programs like Quick Start, Nordic benefitted from other state programs and incentives, including job tax credits, job retraining credits and investment tax credits — the latter of which helped Nordic in 2009 to expand its Rockmart, Ga. facility.

"Georgia is an extremely friendly business environment," added Maple. "At every level — city, county and state — we worked with agencies that helped us take advantage of incentives that might not be available or accessible or as good in other states."

Nordic, which operates 13 locations in the southeast — including four in Georgia — also recognizes the significance and takes advantage of its close proximity and access to the Georgia Ports Authority, Savannah Technical College and the state highway system.

WHAT GEORGIA OFFERS NORDIC

- > Generous incentives
- > Easy access to the world through the Port of Savannah
- > Quick Start workforce training program
- > Relationships with leading universities



"Given all we've been able to do with the help and support of the state of Georgia, being a part of Nordic has been one of the most exciting projects I've ever worked on."

Ross Maple
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS STRATEGY
NORDIC

About Life Sciences in Georgia

Our diversified life science industry spans the full value chain. This means, in Georgia, an idea can be born, researched, tested, commercialized, produced and then delivered quickly to most anywhere in the world. We understand what your business needs to help solve global health issues and save lives. Georgia's reputation has also been enhanced by the presence of numerous world-renowned biotech and bioscience-related organizations and research and teaching institutions like the Georgia Institute of Technology, the University of Georgia and Emory University, and Georgia's Technical College System.

About Cold Chain Storage in Georgia

With 75+ facilities that have temperature-controlled and/or frozen storage capabilities, cold chain storage has a major presence in Georgia, from the Port of Savannah to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Three of the top five global public refrigerated warehousing companies have locations in Georgia, and two of the top ten cold storage warehousing companies in North America are headquartered here – Americold, which is number one, and Nordic, which is number seven. Cold chain storage capabilities and knowledge continue to grow in Georgia in large part thanks to programs such as the Georgia Institute of Technology Supply Chain & Logistics Institute, which is the largest supply chain and logistics research and education enterprise in the world.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the life science team at the Georgia Department of Economic Development
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Georgia.org/ColdChain

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