

Coalition (TLC), an association comprised of firms such as Cisco Systems, Hewlett Packard, Microsoft and Motorola, as well as trade associations, work with the state to promote the technology sector.

The Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) graduates some of the best minds in the country and is ranked fourth in the country for its graduate engineering programs. One of the nation's leading universities, it houses numerous research centers focusing on subjects ranging from microelectronics to computer engineering, defense electronics applications to system-level electronics packaging.

In 1999, the Business Education & Technology Alliance, the Southeastern Software Association and Women in Technology joined forces to create the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG). This organization serves as an umbrella organization linking all of the state's technology organizations, associations and professionals. With a membership of more than 5,000, TAG represents 2,000 companies and organizes annual events focused on technology innovation. ■

Information Technology



For more information, please visit www.georgia.org or call (+1) 404.962.4000

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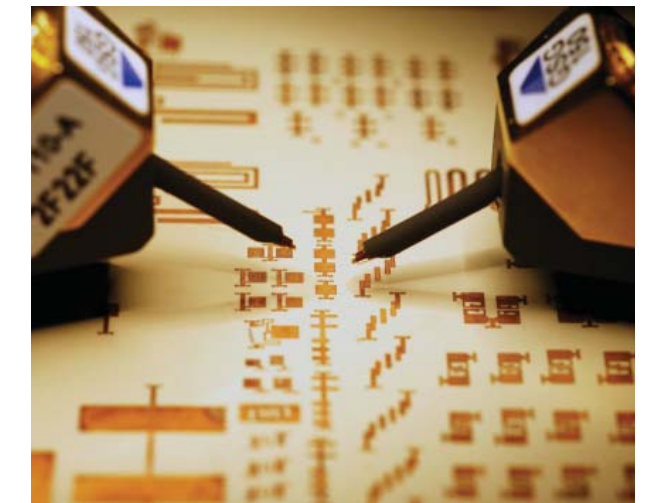
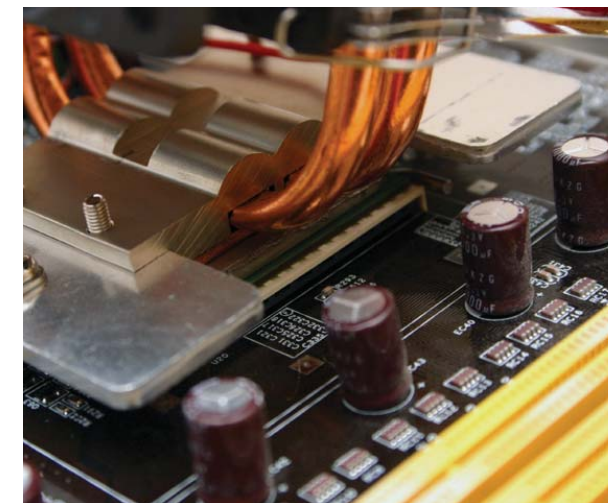


Staying at the cutting edge of technology is essential in today's marketplace. Companies developing the newest and best tools for communications and information exchange drive our economy and attract the brightest minds in our country. Georgia's information and communications technologies (ICT) industry is one of the strongest in the United States and continues to grow.

The Georgia ICT sector encompasses a diverse group of industries. By far the largest of these industries in Georgia is telecommunications, followed by software, computers and peripherals.

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The state's 9,000 technology companies employ 162,497 people, with a payroll of \$11.7 billion. The average annual wage of \$71,902 is 82 percent higher than the state's average private sector wage. In a survey by Forbes.com, Atlanta was ranked the number-one most wired city, beating several cities more often associated with Internet and computer technology such as San Francisco, Seattle and New York. Georgia ranks fifth in the United States in telecommunications employment, sixth in software employment, sixth in Internet services employment and 11th in overall high tech employment, according to the 2007 edition of CyberStates by the American Electronics Association.





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Telecom equipment companies with a strong presence in the state include Motorola, IBM, Alltel, AT&T and Nortel, as well as Atlanta-based companies like Scientific-Atlanta (now Cisco) and EMS Technologies. Atlanta is ranked only behind New York City and Los Angeles in terms of fiber optic connectivity. Additionally, the city's toll-free calling area is the largest in the nation with more than 1.5 million households included.

S1, Digital Envoy, ISS, SecureWorks and CheckFree are among the leading companies in e-security and e-finance software that call Georgia home. Other business-to-business e-commerce companies have developed their operations in Georgia, including Manhattan Associates, Radiant Systems, and Witness Systems. In addition, more traditional companies such as UPS, The Home Depot, Equifax and IBM use their Atlanta operations to develop new technologies.

A vision of Georgia's business leaders created in 1990, the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) is a

private, nonprofit corporation with a goal of ensuring Georgia's position as a top-tier technology center. With leadership drawn from the state's largest corporations and universities and a rich background and history, the GRA is committed to capitalize on innovative university research to build a vibrant, technology-rich economy.

Created in 1991 through the efforts of the GRA, the Georgia Centers for Advanced Telecommunications Technology (GCATT) is a partnership between industry, government and academia that seeks to develop the latest technologies and applications in communications, computing and content processing. By commercializing innovation, GCATT drives the state's high-tech economic development through 20 research centers.

The Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) is a technology incubator devoted to launching new technology companies. Recognized by *Inc.* magazine as one of the nation's top nonprofit technology incubators, The ATDC



assists entrepreneurs in launch of their start-ups and supports them throughout their business development. ATDC delivers strategic business advice and connects these entrepreneurs to people and resources they need to maximize their opportunities for success. Since its creation, ATDC has assisted more than 100 companies through its centers at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Savannah and Warner Robins.

Georgia's electronics sector encompasses a wide range of industries, including industrial and consumer



electronics, industrial controls, scientific and measurement equipment and electronic assemblies. The state is home to more than 200 companies that employ more than 45,000 Georgians.

The American Electronics Association (AeA) cites Georgia's public-private technology initiatives as an example of the most successful in the country in generating technology employment through the development of the necessary infrastructure, education and human resource skills. Further, organizations like the Technology Leadership