



**VIRGINIA'S GATEWAY REGION**  
Economic Development Organization

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## ROLLS-ROYCE CHOOSES GATEWAY REGION FOR STATE-OF-THE-ART PRODUCTION FACILITY

Prince George, VA - Governor Kaine announced today, November 20<sup>th</sup>, that Rolls-Royce plans to invest in a new high-tech aero engine facility in Virginia's Gateway Region, specifically Prince George County. The Company had previously announced that it was considering possible locations in Asia and the US. Initially, the company will invest \$100 million to establish an assembly and test facility for its civil aerospace operations; however this investment is anticipated to build to \$500 million and 500 new jobs as production volume increases. The facility is anticipated to be fully operational by the end of 2009. Virginia's Gateway Region successfully competed against Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Texas in addition to several world-class foreign locations to win this project.

*"Roll-Royce's investment is transformational for the Commonwealth of Virginia and the future of our economy,"* said Governor Kaine. *"The company, which operates in four global markets, will bring international focus to our state's aerospace industry as well as the research and development capabilities of our universities. Rolls-Royce's decision to locate these operations here is strong affirmation of the talent and professionalism of our educated, high-tech workforce and Virginia's competitiveness globally."*

*"This project has been a long time coming and we are all very excited. The impact of this project will positively affect the entire region and the commonwealth as a whole,"* said Renee Wyatt-Chapline, Executive Director of Virginia's Gateway Region.

Rolls-Royce, founded in 1884, is headquartered in London, England. The company has a broad customer base comprising 600 airlines, 4,000 corporate and utility aircraft and helicopter operators, 160 armed forces, more than 2,000 marine customers including 70 navies, and energy customers in 120 countries. The company is ranked second in the world for the design and manufacture of both civil and defense aerospace engines, and is a global leader in the design of marine propulsion and energy solutions.

*"I am pleased that Virginia has been selected as the location for this important work. From the beginning of this competition, Virginia understood our business needs and worked hard to put forward a world class proposal. Rolls-Royce has had a strong relationship with Virginia since 1990 and this new facility builds on that partnership,"* said Sir John Rose, Rolls-Royce Chief Executive.

*"These projects could not have come to fruition without the visionary professionals who recognized Rolls-Royce's importance to Virginia,"* said Jeffrey M. Anderson, Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) Executive Director. *"A remarkable team came together, comprised of VEDP, Prince George*



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*County, Virginia's Gateway Region, the Virginia Port Authority, the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Virginia Community College System, the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, the Virginia Secretaries of Commerce and Trade, Education, Finance, and Transportation, and the Virginia Liaison Office, who worked tireless hours to get the job done. Congressman Randy Forbes, Virginia House of Delegates Speaker William Howell and State Senator William Wampler also personally interacted with company officials during the process."*

The new facility in Prince George County will assemble and test the RB282, the engine selected in June by Dassault to power its new super midsize corporate jet and potentially the first in a family of small engines for the corporate and regional jet market. Currently, more than 90 percent of corporate aircraft are manufactured in the US, which is today the most significant market for these products, the company said.

In addition to production of the RB282, the new facility will also have the capability to undertake blisk manufacture for the F136 engine for the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) and will provide the company with options for future advanced manufacturing activities as opportunities arise. The investment in the Prince George facility further builds on Rolls-Royce's strong presence in North America and the company's commitment to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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*Virginia's Gateway Region exists to enhance the economic development opportunities for the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell and Petersburg, and the counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Surry and Sussex. The Gateway Region is a private, nonprofit economic development organization that is publicly and privately funded to facilitate new business opportunities, work with existing businesses, advance resources that will enhance the economic viability of the region and foster regional cooperation among the public and private entities that are involved in economic development activities. For more about VGR visit [www.gatewayregion.com](http://www.gatewayregion.com).*