



News Release

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ILM Business Park Designated as AT&T Fiber Ready

Designation Reflects Presence of Fiber-Based, High-Speed Internet

Wilmington, NC, April 26, 2016 — As part of AT&T's continuing efforts to drive economic development and investment in North Carolina, [AT&T*](#) and representatives from New Hanover County and New Hanover County Airport Authority today announced that the ILM Business Park has been designated AT&T Fiber Ready, the first international airport business park in the country to achieve this designation.

In a global economy, connectivity is vital to new employers and businesses of every type. The AT&T Fiber Ready designation helps economic development leaders more effectively position their communities for site selection by emphasizing the availability of high-speed, fiber-based services.

"As the home of North Carolina's largest port, and an international airport, New Hanover County is a gateway for global commerce," said Beth Dawson, chairman of the New Hanover County Board of County Commissioners. "Through advanced communications technology, we will also be a cyber-gateway for the virtual products which move in the information age marketplace. This designation gives our economic developers a powerful tool as they work to attract new jobs and establish this region as a premier hub for global business."

The AT&T fiber network provides the bandwidth needed to support data intensive services such as video, collaboration, cloud services and more through products such as Ethernet, Virtual Private Networking, Managed Internet Service, AT&T GigaPowerSM and AT&T Business Fiber. Customers can complement their high-speed Internet with network security options and online backup to help protect and virtualize their business-critical information.

"The ready availability of fiber optic facilities is essential to the operations of the airport and to our plans for the business park," said Julie Wilsey, ILM Director. "We envision a state-of-the-art facility located in a region with an exception quality of life and offering unparalleled convenience and speed to move information, people or products. Being a Fiber Ready location tells our clients that commerce opportunities here go far beyond the airport, and faster than any aircraft."

In January, AT&T announced that it had added 1 million additional business customer locations – including more than 23,500 in North Carolina – to its fiber network since 2012 when the company began its aggressive fiber expansion program. The expansion helped extend the AT&T U.S. fiber network another 76,000 route miles, bringing the total to nearly 500,000. AT&T offers business customers high-speed Internet products on its fiber network in every major metro in the company's 21-state footprint.



“We are excited to recognize the ILM Business Park as one of many places across North Carolina where AT&T’s fiber infrastructure is in place and ready to help local businesses drive job creation,” said John Lyon, regional director of external affairs for AT&T North Carolina. “Every day, AT&T’s employees use our billions of dollars of investment to deliver high-speed Internet for consumers and businesses. Those investments are possible in large part because of the smart, pro-investment policies championed by our state leaders and by local leaders such as Chairwoman Dawson.”

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