



Arkansas Economic Development Commission

1.800.Arkansas

ArkansasEDC.com



Smart Grid Technologies (Power Electronics)

Companies finding success in Arkansas:



Workforce

2nd highest percentage of manufacturing employment in the south. - NAM

1.3M skilled & trained workforce that is projected to increase 7% from 2013-2023.

600 Arkansans are employed by Southwest Power Pool.

12% increase of engineers in Arkansas projected by 2022.

Education

46 colleges, universities & 2-year colleges throughout Arkansas. Approximately half of Arkansans have a college degree or some college.

7 ABET accredited post-secondary engineering programs.

CS Computer Science and Coding classes are offered at all Arkansas high schools.

UofA National Center for Reliable Electric Power Transmission investigates solid-state solutions for the electric power grid including protection devices, FACTS and microgrids and energy storage and distributed generation applications.

Unique Attributes

2/7 Arkansas hosts two out of seven regional transmission organizations in the U.S and two out of nine transmission organizations in North America.

10 Among the top ten states for lowest energy costs.*

6.02¢ Low utility costs at an average of 6.02 cents per kWh for industrial users.

*<http://wallethub.com/edu/most-least-energy-expensive-states/4833/>

Competitive Advantages



Navigable Waterways
1,000 miles



Class 1 Railroad
1,683 miles



State and U.S. Highways
16,418 miles



Public Airports
Approximately 100



Competitive Incentives
including cash and grant assistance for qualified projects.

Arkansas became the first state to pass comprehensive legislation requiring that computer science courses be taught in every public school.

Recent Investments

2015, Midcontinent Independent System Operator: Opened a new \$22M operations center in Little Rock, AR

2015, Picasolar: \$6.5M expansion and the creation of 30 new jobs

2014, CREE Fayetteville Inc.: Was awarded \$5.5M in Department of Defense contracts.

2012-2014, SPP: Transmission upgrades by SPP involved almost \$3.4B in capital investment.

