

US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Regional victors

BACK FOR ITS SECOND YEAR, **fDi** MAGAZINE'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PITS US STATES AGAINST EACH OTHER USING THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL'S FOUR CONFERENCE SYSTEM, WITH TEAMS BATTLING ON THE FDI FIELD FOR TITLE OF NATIONAL CHAMPION 2016. **CATHY MULLAN** REPORTS



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

Southeast Conference

South Carolina has topped the leader board of the Southeast Conference for the second year in a row. The state's largest investment between September 2015 and August 2016 came from Switzerland-based Krono Holding, which operates a fibreboard mill in Barnwell. In December 2015, the company announced it would invest \$230m to expand its manufacturing facility, creating 105 new jobs when it is completed in 2018. Germany-based Otto Krahn is the state's top investor, investing twice in the state over the 12-month period. A manufacturing facility was established in Duncan in August 2016, when in the same month the company established a headquarters facility for its new joint venture with William Barnet & Son.

Midwest Conference

Michigan has beaten Indiana to the top spot in the Midwest Conference. The state's FDI paints a much more industrial picture, with more than one-quarter in the automotive components sector, more than one-fifth in the industrial machinery, equipment and tools sector, and nearly 10% in the automotive OEM sector. The largest investment in the state came from Germany-based Daimler, through its Daimler Trucks North America subsidiary. The company announced a \$375m expansion of its Redford manufacturing facility, which is set to create 160 jobs.

Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Conference

Massachusetts has soared to the lead in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Conference. The most populous state in New England was home to 18 inward investment projects the software and IT sector in the 12-month period assessed, which represented nearly one-third of all investment in the state. Switzerland-based NEXThink, which provides IT analytics, announced it was to establish its US sales headquarters in the state, creating 150 jobs by the end of 2017. More than 40% of all projects in Massachusetts went to the state capital, Boston, followed by Cambridge, which attracted more than 18% of all state investment, and is located within the Boston metropolitan area.

West and Mountain Conference

California remains the leader in the West and Mountain Conference. More than one-quarter of all the state's investment is in the software and IT sector, followed by over 13% in business services and nearly 9% in communications sectors. Major investments in the software sector came from China-based JD.com, which opened a 465-square-metre R&D facility in Santa Clara in October 2015, creating 100 jobs, and Ireland-based Experian, which invested in an innovation centre in San Diego, creating about 100 jobs. Global information services company Experian attributed its investment decision to the technology and innovation environment in the state. ■

DIVISIONS

SOUTHEAST

STATE	POINTS
South Carolina	100.00
Kentucky	82.44
Florida	63.11
Georgia	60.26
Texas	59.78
Tennessee	58.17
Alabama	43.72
Mississippi	35.35
Arkansas	24.54
Louisiana	21.95

WEST AND MOUNTAIN

STATE	POINTS
California	100.00
South Dakota	74.51
Colorado	72.60
Washington	69.28
Nevada	67.79
Arizona	67.21
Idaho	65.44
North Dakota	54.23
New Mexico	53.96
Oregon	51.37
Hawaii	39.91
Montana	39.61
Alaska	30.26

NORTHEAST AND MID-ATLANTIC

STATE	POINTS
Massachusetts	100.00
New York	81.84
Pennsylvania	73.13
North Carolina	65.63
New Jersey	64.40
Virginia	59.90
Connecticut	47.76
Rhode Island	41.96
New Hampshire	40.67
Maryland	40.28
Maine	35.29
West Virginia	26.69
Vermont	24.41
District of Columbia	21.09

MIDWEST

STATE	POINTS
Michigan	100.00
Indiana	81.91
Ohio	77.22
Illinois	65.89
Missouri	59.04
Iowa	47.95
Kansas	45.37
Wisconsin	36.53
Minnesota	36.50
Nebraska	31.06
Oklahoma	26.32

METHODOLOGY

To compile this year's fDi National Championship, the fDi Intelligence division of the Financial Times collected data using the specialist online tool fDi Markets. Data was collected on FDI projects into US states between September 2015 and August 2016, while growth datapoints were worked out comparing this data with corresponding FDI data between September 2014 and August 2015. States were divided into four conferences, grouped geographically. Locations scored up to a maximum of 10 points for each datapoint and each datapoint was weighted to give the overall scores.

DATAPPOINTS

- Projects Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (excluding interstate)
- Projects per 100,000 Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (excluding interstate)
- Business function analysis Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (excluding interstate)
- Growth in projects Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 vs Sep 2014 – Aug 2015 (Nominal) (excluding interstate)
- Number of expansions Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (excluding interstate)
- Expansions per 100,000 Sept2015 – Aug 2016 (excluding interstate)
- Projects Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (including interstate)
- Projects per 100,000 Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (including interstate)
- Business function analysis Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (excluding interstate)
- Growth in projects (Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 vs Sep 2014 – Aug 2015) (nominal) (including interstate)
- Number of expansions Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (including interstate)
- Expansions per 100,000 Sep 2015 – Aug 2016 (including interstate)

SEMI FINALISTS

- South Carolina
- Massachusetts
- California
- Michigan