

## NORTH CAROLINA

---

### **Amazon's multi-billion-dollar fiber optic deal with Corning adds 1,000 N.C. jobs**

CNBC [reports](#) Amazon has signed a multi-billion-dollar, multi-year agreement with Corning for optical fiber and connectivity products to power its expanding U.S. AI data center network, with 1,000 new jobs coming to Corning's North Carolina facilities.

- **Deal:** Financial terms were not disclosed, but the agreement covers optical fiber and networking solutions essential for moving data between processors inside AI data centers.
- **NC jobs:** The 1,000 positions will be created at Corning's existing NC facilities. Reuters also [reports](#) the deal expands a fiber optic technician training program with Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory.
- **Amazon's NC footprint:** AWS CEO Matt Garman said Amazon's NC investments have already created more than 26,000 jobs in the state. Last year Amazon committed \$10 billion to new NC data centers.
- **Pattern:** The Amazon-Corning deal marks the third major hyperscaler commitment to Corning in 2026.
  - Meta committed up to \$6 billion in January to anchor the Hickory expansion, on track to become the world's largest fiber optic facility.
  - Nvidia committed up to \$3.2 billion in May for three new NC and Texas factories creating at least 3,000 jobs.
- **Corning's NC base:** Corning now boasts more than 5,000 NC employees across Hickory, Newton, Wilmington, Winston-Salem, and Concord, with optical communications headquarters in Charlotte.

**TAKEAWAY:** Meta, Nvidia, and Amazon have each made multibillion-dollar commitments anchored to Corning's NC operations in 2026 alone. Hickory is emerging as one of the most consequential AI infrastructure manufacturing nodes in the country.