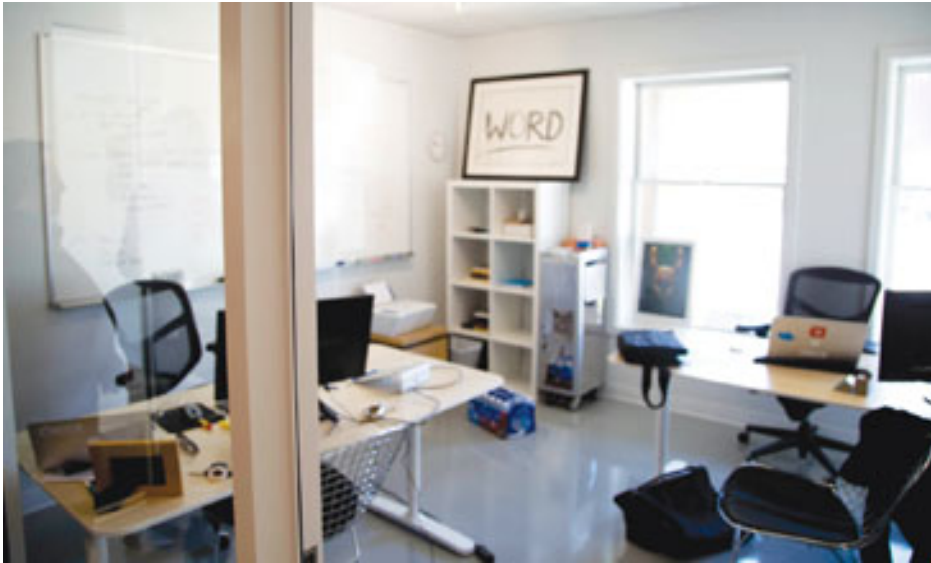




Beaufort's New Hi-Tech Incubator Brings the 21st Century to Town

By Mark Shaffer
Photos courtesy of Beaufort Digital Corridor

Last January Beaufort Mayor Billy Keyserling cut the ribbon at 500 Carteret Street officially ushering in the city's Age of Technology. In a town that dates back centuries some things are better late than never. Enter the Beaufort Digital Corridor, a hi-tech incubator sponsored by the city to grow the tech and knowledge-based companies of tomorrow in the shadow of the Antebellum South. The Beaufort model is a slightly modified spin-off of the highly successful Charleston Digital Corridor, the brainchild of Earnest Andrade – also instrumental in getting the Beaufort project up and running.

The driving force in recruiting Andrade and bringing the project to life in an astonishingly short six months is City Councilman, Stephen Murray. The final piece of the puzzle was finding someone both capable and dynamic enough to run the thing. Karen Warner seemed the perfect fit with nearly three decades spent as a manager and an executive in High Tech and Marketing. She describes her job as “managing a techno ecosystem.” Her experience in venture capital factors in directly with a key element to the

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