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2022 Top States Commentary: Georgia's Logistics & Infrastructure Attributes Contribute to Its No. 1 Ranking

Its logistical strengths and supply-chain technology leadership are among the reasons consultants ranked Georgia as the No. 1 state for doing business.

John Boyd, Principal, The Boyd Company, Inc.

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No surprise to me that Georgia takes the top spot here. Georgia is a major, global player in the logistics sector due to its multimodal strengths in aviation, deepwater ports, rail, over-the-road highway network — not to mention the state being a popular landing spot for the reshoring of manufacturing back to the U.S.

UPS — a longtime Boyd logistics client and one of the largest private-sector employers in Georgia — has its headquarters in Atlanta having relocated it from Greenwich, Conn., in 1991. Historically, Atlanta has been known as the logistics hub of the South due to its many early rail lines. We like to say that the UPS head office move to Atlanta made the city's logistics hub moniker “official.”

Elsewhere in the state, warehousing is especially hot in the Savannah area on the strength of the deepwater port there, the port's impressive growth in recent years, and relative lack of congestion vis-à-vis ports like LA, Long Beach, and New York/New Jersey. The state's relatively new inland Appalachian Regional Port in Murray County has been well-received and provides another important gateway to global markets.

Atlanta has also grown into a major global center for supply-chain technology due to its large cluster of corporate headquarters that help develop and manage leading-edge supply-chain technologies. Today, the logistics sector has grown into being Atlanta's single-largest employer with over a quarter million jobs. Atlanta is also home to top-level research at the world's largest logistics-related research and education enterprise: the Georgia Tech Supply Chain & Logistics Institute.

John Boyd, Principal, The Boyd Company, Inc.

Founded in 1975, The Boyd Company, Inc., is one of the nation's most trusted and well-known corporate site selection firms. Since joining the firm in 2002, John has worked on a wide range of site selection and development projects that have resulted in billions of dollars of capital investment and tens of thousands

of new jobs throughout the U.S. Boyd clients include UPS, Boeing, Dell, GlaxoSmithKline, PepsiCo, TD Bank, and other Fortune 500 and up-and-coming companies. In 2005, John launched The Boyd Company's online BizCosts.com service which provides comparative operating cost data to site-seeking companies and developers around the globe. John's expert commentary on corporate mobility, economic development, and the commercial real estate industry are routinely featured in the business news media.