



Covia Innovation Center

Focused on customers

Located in Concord, North Carolina, the Covia Innovation Center (CIC) brings together technical expertise, advanced tools and application-focused work to help customers solve real challenges through practical, results-driven research and development - supported by extensive lab space and a wide range of processing and testing equipment.

Every project begins with a clear understanding of the customer's formulation, process and end-use requirements. From there, Covia teams evaluate materials, identify opportunities and develop mineral-based solutions that deliver measurable results.

Designed for collaboration

The CIC is built for working together. Customers can engage directly with Covia scientists and engineers, participate in trials and evaluate how materials perform in real applications. This hands-on approach allows ideas to move quickly from discussion to testing and refinement.

Cross-functional collaboration is central to the process. Technical service, product development and commercial teams work together to ensure solutions are not only technically sound but also aligned with customer operations and goals.

Inside the center:

- Opened in 2025
- 20,000 sq ft
 - 13,000 sq ft for product development
 - 7,000 sq ft for collaboration
- 30 open-office workstations
- Functional areas:
 - Coatings
 - Polymers
 - Building Products
 - Engineered Stone
 - Foundry
 - Glass
 - Ceramic
 - Sports and Recreation



A process for product development

At the CIC, development follows a structured, iterative process designed to move efficiently from concept to validated solution. Each project begins with a defined challenge. Our researchers process materials, incorporate them into applications and test for performance. Then they analyze the results, adjust the materials and the cycle continues until the desired outcome is achieved.

Materials processing

Every solution starts with the right material. At the CIC, minerals are processed and engineered to meet specific performance requirements. Grinding and sizing control particle distribution. Surface treatments improve compatibility within formulations. Thermal processing, including calcination, enhances properties such as brightness, durability and chemical stability. These adjustments allow Covia to tailor materials for specific functions, such as improving dispersion, enhancing durability or optimizing optical properties.

Application development

Materials are evaluated where they matter most-in application. The CIC supports development across industries that include coatings, polymers, glass, ceramics, metals and foundry applications. Our specialists study materials in formulations and use processes and methods that reflect real-world conditions. This ensures solutions are not only effective in theory but also practical in production and use.

Testing and validation

We use comprehensive and validated testing methods to verify performance. Our technical team evaluates materials and formulations across a wide range of parameters, including physical, mechanical, optical, thermal, rheological, durability and processability to provide insight into how materials behave under different end-use conditions.



For more information on how we can elevate your polymer R&D to increase product utility and value, please call: 800.243.9004 or email: Polymers@coviacorp.com.



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