

South Carolina firm to relocate HQ to downtown Fort Lauderdale with over 150 employees

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By [Brian Bandell](#) – Senior Reporter, South Florida Business Journal

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[KEMET Corp.](#) will relocate its U.S. headquarters from Greenville, South Carolina to downtown Fort Lauderdale, according to Cushman & Wakefield, which brokered the 64,095-square-foot lease.

The manufacturing company (NYSE: KEM) will have over 150 employees at 1 East Broward Boulevard once it takes occupancy there in late first quarter of 2018, the real estate brokerage said. This was the largest office lease signed in Broward County to date in 2017, they added.

Cushman & Wakefield's [Travis Herring](#), [Deanna Lobinsky](#) and [Katherine Ridgeway](#) represented landlord Ivy Realty. Newmark Grubb's [Jim Hollis](#) and [Michael Warren](#) represented KEMET Corp.

KEMET Corp. officials couldn't immediately be reached for comment. With \$757.8 million in net sales for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2017, KEMET Corp. makes electronic components such as surface mount and through-hole capacitor technologies that are used in many electronic devices. The company has over 10,400 employees worldwide.

"They like a lot of things about Fort Lauderdale," Herring said. "We have a diverse, talented labor force, a friendly tax environment, and Fort Lauderdale is considered a business-friendly city. They also liked the walkability to restaurants and the Brightline train station, and the proximity to an international airport."

Herring said KEMET Corp. also liked the building quality and new amenities of 1 East Broward.

The 19-story, 350,000-square-foot 1 East Broward was recently renovated by Ivy Realty with updated common areas and a fitness center for tenants. In other recent deals in the building, Cushman & Wakefield brokered a 9,679-square-foot lease expansion and renewal with Alms Healths and a 4,039-square-foot lease renewal with [Veritext](#).