



**OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK** PODCAST | EPISODE TRANSCRIPT

## “In 5: Powering AI and a \$165 Million Investment in American manufacturing”

**Featuring:**

**Lauren Espin**, Siemens Corporate Communications

**Released:** March 31, 2026

**Produced by:** Siemens USA

**Description:** AI is transforming industries, but powering it is the real challenge.

As data center demand surges, so does the need for reliable electrical infrastructure. In this episode of *The Optimistic Outlook in Five*, Lauren Espin breaks down Siemens’ \$165 million investment in U.S. manufacturing across North and South Carolina, expanding production of the critical technologies that power AI.

From prefabricated power systems that speed deployment to expanded production of switchgear, busway, and protection devices, Siemens is scaling to meet demand.

But it doesn’t stop there. The Siemens Foundation’s Careers Electric initiative is also investing \$9.25 million to train 25,000 electricians—building the workforce needed to sustain this growth.

Because AI runs on electricity, and electricity depends on infrastructure and the people behind it.

**Conversation:**

I'm Lauren Espin, and this is the Optimistic Outlook in Five, a quick brief on an important development that will change the future.

When people talk about artificial intelligence, one question comes up again and again: How will we power the data centers behind it?

It's a real and growing concern.

AI workloads are pushing data-center power demand, density, and reliability requirements higher than ever before, and the electrical infrastructure that supports these facilities needs to keep pace.

What people may not realize, though, is that meeting these needs can also fuel something else: major new investment in U.S. manufacturing.

Siemens has announced more than \$165 million in new U.S. manufacturing investments across North and South Carolina to help support America's rapidly accelerating AI and data center markets

The expansion will create more than 350 jobs and increase Siemens' capacity to produce vital electrical products that AI Factories and data centers depend on.

These electrical products, together with Siemens' simulation, automation and cooling optimization portfolios, create a chip-to-grid-to-buildings solution that reshapes the infrastructure powering AI.

Together, these technologies ensure efficiency and resiliency for the data center industry as well as neighboring communities across the country.

In Raleigh, North Carolina, Siemens is opening a new 131,000squarefoot, all electric, carbon neutral facility that will assemble the company's integrated power delivery

systems. These are prefabricated, engineered electrical units that significantly reduce onsite installation time — a major advantage for datacenter developers racing to scale.

Just down the road in Wendell, Siemens is opening a second new facility, 101,000 square feet, dedicated to localizing production of medium voltage protection and automation devices.

In addition, Siemens is expanding switchgear production at the existing Wendell facility.

In South Carolina, Siemens is further expanding its footprint. A new 120,000squarefoot facility in Spartanburg will handle lighting panel production and distribution.

Meanwhile, the company’s Roebuck plant is adding 22,000 square feet to increase production of busway systems, which distribute power efficiently across large data-center campuses.

These investments build on nearly \$700 million Siemens has committed over the past several years to expand local U.S. manufacturing capacity, including new and expanded electrical products facilities in Pomona, California, and Fort Worth, Texas.

But that's only half the story. At the same time, the Siemens Foundation launched Careers Electric in North Carolina, a \$9.25 million initiative designed to train 25,000 electricians over the next decade.

This goal is to build an entire ecosystem of skilled workers who can install, maintain, and scale this infrastructure across the industry.

Because while the AI revolution runs on electricity, that electricity runs on infrastructure, that infrastructure runs thanks to people who know how to build it, install it, and keep it working.

I'm Lauren Espin, and this is The Optimistic Outlook.