



# OCTOBER 2008

## COMPOSITE ADVANTAGE HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR NEW DAYTON-BASED ADVANCED MATERIALS MANUFACTURING FACILITY

The National Composite Center (NCC) spun off Composite Advantage LLC (CA) in 2005 and graduated the company from its incubation program in May. On October 17, Composite Advantage held a special ribbon cutting ceremony to recognize the acquisition of its new advanced materials manufacturing facility.

The 22,000 square foot building is allowing CA to add new products and mold larger Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composite parts up to 52 feet. The additional space also permits pre-assembly of parts, a service that significantly improves the efficiency and success rate of field installations.

Guest speakers included Lou Luedtke, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), National Composite Center (NCC); Scott Reeve, President, CA;



*From l to r, Governor Bob Taft, Dennis Rediker, Steve Budd, Montgomery County Commissioner Debbie Lieberman, Dayton Mayor Rhine McLin, Scott Reeve, Ruth Reeve, Andy Loff, Montgomery County Commissioner Dan Foley and Lou Luedtke.*

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## NCC ADDS MECHANICAL TESTING SYSTEM CONTROLLER UPGRADE TO TEST LAB

NCC's Materials Testing Laboratory is equipped to meet mechanical testing, optical analysis and thermal (DMA, TMA and TGA) analysis needs. The Center's extensive experience in custom fixture design and implementation of innovative test methods allows NCC to support requests for tests that do not

conform to standardized methods. NCC also has an environmental testing chamber for elevated and subambient temperature testing.

As part of NCC's ongoing commitment to manufacturers and member companies, the Center has added a mechanical testing system controller

upgrade. The upgrade features a FlexTest 60 Control System from MTS Systems Corp., with a versatile, easy-to-use servo-controller for general testing applications. With real-time closed-loop control, MultiPurpose TestWare software automates virtually any test procedure. In addition, users will have access to fatigue testing, a

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## COMPOSITE ADVANTAGE HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

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Dayton Mayor Rhine McLin; Montgomery County Commissioner Debbie Lieberman; Steve Budd, President, CityWide Development Corp and Dennis Rediker, Board Chairman for the Dayton Development Coalition (DDC).

“Composite Advantage is one of our success stories,” said Lou Luedtke, President and CEO of NCC. “Scott joined NCC in 2000 as the Vice-President of Technical Operations. When he came up with the concept for Composite Advantage the Center was able to fulfill two core objectives –

spinning off a new composites company and a skilled professional to take the helm. Scott incubated Composite Advantage at NCC for three years before taking his place in the Dayton business community.”

“The opportunity to incubate at the National Composite Center (NCC) allowed us to grow our company before taking on the full operational costs associated with ownership of a manufacturing facility,” said Scott Reeve, President of CA. “Incubation also gave us the time we needed to determine the best mix of space and

equipment to optimize part production as our infusion technology evolved. When we began to move through the process of a facility purchase, we received valuable assistance and support from community and government organizations such as NCC, CityWide Development Corporation and the City of Dayton’s Economic Development Office.

Establishing ourselves in our new facility allows us to expand our manufacturing capabilities and significantly enhance the level of service we’re able to provide.”

new capability for NCC’s Test Lab. Fully configurable, the upgrade allows users to run new tests without changing cables.

Compensation techniques optimize control, even for challenging tests and specimens. The Center will also have the flexibility to add multiple test stations in the future yet operate them from one controller.

***NCC adds new mechanical testing system controller upgrade to its advanced Test Lab.***



***Installation was completed in October 2008***





Dayton Region

## NCC BOOTCAMP HELPS PARTICIPANTS EXPAND KNOWLEDGE OF NANOMATERIALS

NCC hosted a Nano-Composite Bootcamp October 16 to introduce participants to new ways to use nanomaterials in product applications and help customers expand their knowledge about nanomaterials.

In addition, participants received an update on emerging nano-composite materials and technologies and how nanocomposites can be used to boost profitability. Guest speaker was Dr. Phillip Wilson, President of Inspired

Innovations, LLC and former Chief Technologist for Magna International. NCC holds these bootcamps on a regular basis to help manufacturers keep pace with this fast growing industry.

