



**NCC HOSTS ROUNDTABLE WITH SENATOR VOINOVICH AND KEY COMPOSITE BUSINESSES**

The National Composite Center (NCC) hosted a Roundtable Event on August 28 for US Senator George Voinovich and local selected businesses to discuss key issues impacting day-to-day operations. Representatives from Mutual Tool, WebCore Technologies Inc., Lion Apparel, Gem City Engineering, Stillwater Technologies, Ernie Green Industries, Inc., Diamond Tool & Die and Standard Register discussed how they are coping with challenges ranging from high health insurance premiums and energy costs to the pressures being exerted by foreign competition.

Feedback from the discussion will be used to help develop strategies for helping businesses deal with these challenges while maintaining their edge in the marketplace. The event took place on NCC's manufacturing floor against the backdrop of its 1000-ton SRIM press.

Senator Voinovich was instrumental in helping NCC secure the press, which is

currently being used to support Focal Project III with the Automotive Composites Consortium (ACC) - a division of the United States Consortium for Automotive Research – (USCAR).

**NCC UPDATES OHIO BRIDGE CONFERENCE ATTENDEES - ACTS AS INSTALLATION INSPECTOR FOR FIRST FRP DECK PROJECT COMPLETED WITHOUT STATE OR FEDERAL SUBSIDY**

NCC attended the 2003 Ohio Bridge Conference August 12 in Columbus, Ohio to update attendees about the Center's latest FRP bridge deck activities. In Spring 2002, an FRP deck was installed under NCC's C4I Initiative on a Greene County bridge measuring 221 feet long and 31 feet wide with beam spacing of 9 feet and 4 inches. NCC reported that following six months of service, a live load test quantified the excellent performance of this FRP deck.

In addition, NCC announced the first FRP bridge deck installation to take place in Ohio without State or federal subsidy. Dayton's Pleasant Plain Road received an FRP bridge deck 12 feet long, 30 feet wide and four

inches deep with a 73 degree skew supplied to the bridge site in one piece and just in time to be installed. The deck was lifted with a truck hoe from a semi trailer and positioned on beams in just minutes. It took just three hours to mechanically attach the deck to the beams with z-clips. County crew members and the deck supplier completed the work without the assistance or presence of a contractor. Experience with this FRP deck installation showed that very small bridges lend themselves to pre-fabricated FRP decks. In fact, the whole structure – beams and the deck - could be pre-assembled at the manufacturing facility, delivered to the site and set on abutments resulting in labor cost and time savings in the beam assembly. Beam installation would not be subject to weather conditions and removal of the old structure could take place at the same time factory fabrication of the new FRP deck was being completed.

**NCC TO EXHIBIT AT SAMPE, HOLD SPECIAL TOUR OF FACILITY AND HOST DISPLAY OF USU WRIGHT FLYER**

NCC will showcase its breakthrough signature Rapid Fiber Preform (RFP) process at



Booth #301 at the 35<sup>th</sup> International SAMPE Technical Conference in Dayton, Ohio. NCC will also highlight its advanced closed molding techniques and patented Litecast™ technology.

The conference, titled "Materials and Processing: Enabling Flight – Our Legacy and Future," will be held Sept. 28 – Oct. 2 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The Center will offer SAMPE attendees a unique opportunity to take a special tour of its state-of-the-art headquarters and manufacturing facility. Tour highlights will include NCC's signature Rapid Fiber Preform (RFP) technology, a non-traditional, low cost process being used to produce products for a number of commercial markets. Attendees will visit NCC's Closed Molding Cell. The Cell is being used to educate companies about vacuum infusion, resin transfer molding and SRIM.

The Center will also showcase its patented Litecast™ technology. Tours will be held at 1:00, 2:30 and 4 p.m. on Oct. 2. In addition, NCC will host the USU Wright Flyer™ to give visitors a chance to examine the composite 1905 replica up close. Built by Utah State University faculty and students, the USU Wright Flyer

played a key role during this summer's Centennial of Flight celebration and recreated one of the Wright Brothers' famous flights at Huffman Prairie Flying Field. A 1903 Wright Flyer engine replica, machined by local company Hessler Machine, will also be on display. For more information about these activities contact John Weidner or Scott Reeve at 937-297-9450.

#### **NCC TO EXHIBIT AT COMPOSITES 2003 AND HOST SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR**

It's no secret that bringing new technology to market is a tough task fraught with challenges. In today's economy great ideas often require a creative approach to become marketable realities. NCC will exhibit at Composites 2003 and host a special seminar that delivers practical insight into successfully traveling the trail to commercialization. The Center will exhibit its signature Rapid Fiber Preform (RFP) process, advanced closed molding techniques and Litecast™ metal-to-composite joining technology at Booth #1034.

In the first segment of its seminar, Susan Ward, President & CEO of ITECS, will talk about what it

takes to implement new technologies if you're a big company with big resources. Susan draws on more than 24 years of experience in helping companies find the tools they need to commercialize new technologies, grow revenues and increase their assets. She'll talk about the challenges of implementing new technologies despite a large budget and provide a checklist of steps that are critical to the process.

Jim Groninger, President of Design Tanks Inc., will open the second segment with a compelling case study. He'll profile Design Tanks, a traditional composites manufacturing company that had an interest in upgrading process capabilities and implementing creative equipment changes. These changes not only increased productivity and provided a safer and cleaner environment for employees, but also ultimately led to the invention of a new product line. To successfully launch the new product line, Jim also tapped a new venue for distribution – the internet. His story offers a key example of an established player that stepped outside the confines of a mature market.

The third segment, led by Max Lake, President of Applied



Sciences, details how to create a platform from the ground up for a new technology. One of the most difficult business endeavors, Max's insight and experience in this arena will help attendees understand what it takes - from attracting capital and the right technical staff for an unproven technology to how to build the plant needed to manufacture product.

In the final segment, Dave Richard of the National Composite Center will talk about how new revenue streams can be mined from technology that has already been invented but no longer fits the corporate profile. Dave chronicles a case study of a research and development center that plucked a key technology from being "shelved" and helped launch a new business and snag a world-class distributor. A dynamic mixture of speakers delivering real world examples from different business arenas provides a session you won't want to miss.