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NCC CONCLUDES SUCCESSFUL FISCAL YEAR

The National Composite Center (NCC) is moving to the next level in its penetration of key markets, development of new business opportunities and growth of commercial composite applications. Steps to birth a new aerospace parts company, the establishment of a Closed Molding Cell and advancements in NCC's Rapid Fiber Preform technology name just a few 2002 highlights. The strong thread connecting these and other important NCC activities was the Center's ability to conclude 2002 with an operating income in the black for the second year running.

NCC closed out 2002 with preliminary unaudited numbers showing a \$40,000 reserve on gross revenues of \$5,129,000. In addition, Technology Access Fees collected from member companies totaled \$66,000. Revenues were split almost evenly between government and industrial funded projects that provided 92 percent of revenues with the other 8 percent supplied by leasing and conference center fees. NCC added nearly \$300,000 in assets in two major areas - a Closed Molding Cell and other equipment transferred from member company WebCore Technologies Inc. and building upgrades/design work to

accommodate a Large Scale Preform System planned for later this year.

The Center has launched 2003 with an aggressive plan targeting the growth of gross revenues by nearly 32 percent. Government projects will grow by 48 percent with industrial projects increasing by 21 percent. This growth, generated by projects that are nearly 90 percent committed, will also produce opportunities for investment. Aside from new growth, NCC is expanding its investment in people, technologies and processes. Technical Access Fees of \$25,000 were spent on two projects in 2002. New projects slated for 2003 will earmark the Technical Oversight Committee (TOC) accumulated funds of \$116,000. As these exciting projects and activities unfold, NCC will share progress updates in future newsletter editions.

NCC LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

As the Center for excellence in structural composites, NCC is putting the expertise of its facility, technical staff and manufacturing capabilities at the fingertips of businesses in the Miami Valley, across the nation and on an international level with a new website. You'll want to check us

out at www.compositecenter.org.

Easy to use navigation buttons and hotlinks not only record NCC's historical journey, but provide up to the minute progress on the Center's steps to build Composite Valley, launch new business enterprises and complete projects to commercialize composite technology. Visitors can read about why NCC's capabilities with structural composites set it apart from other organizations. Visitors can also meet NCC's staff of experts, its members and "shop" the Center's technical services. In addition to a newsroom complete with PDF links of trade magazine articles featuring NCC, other sections feature special events NCC has contributed to, what trade shows the Center will be exhibiting at and an archive of newsletters from the first to the latest edition. And if you're interested in reading up on NCC's monthly column in CF magazine, you can fill out a free subscription at NCC's News section. You'll want to check back often as NCC's website continues to chronicle the Center's exciting progress over the next year.

NCC TO HOLD CLOSED MOLDING CLASS IN FEBRUARY

NCC will hold a Commercial Infusion Training class February 5-6, 2003. The two-day class



features vacuum infusion of commercial grade materials with a special emphasis on production cost, part quality and part reproducibility. Vacuum infusion is an environmentally friendly closed molding process able to manufacture high quality composite parts with minimum tooling costs. Students will be taken step by step through proven vacuum infusion techniques that include hands on demonstrations. Production and conversion costs will be discussed as they apply to open molding. Class time will also be used to discuss a variety of patented technologies and how they can be applied to attendees' products. Space is limited to 15 students. For more details or to sign up for a class, interested individuals can contact Andrew Loff at 937-297-9436 or email aloff@compositecenter.org.

TWO KEY EXPERTS JOIN NCC'S STAFF

Part of NCC's investment for 2003 is the addition of two experts from the composite industry. John C. Weidner will head NCC's Aerospace & Defense business development while Susan Ward has been contracted to drive new industrial business development. John has held such key positions as

President of Advanced Composites Group, Inc. in Tulsa, Oklahoma and AAR Composites in Clearwater, Florida. He has also served as Director of Composite Structures for Alliant Techsystems Inc., in Salt Lake City, Utah and Director of Business Development for Hercules Inc., in Wilmington, Delaware. In addition to other management positions, John brings a broad range of engineering, structural composite technology, marketing, design and manufacturing expertise to his position. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Dayton.

Susan is a performance-oriented executive who focuses her specialized skills on matching the right technology to the right marketplace to give companies the tools they need to commercialize new technologies, grow revenues and increase the value of company assets. Prior to forming her consulting company Integrated Technical Solutions (ITECS), Susan held key positions with IMERYS, Owens Corning, Composites Innovation and Exxon. She holds a bachelor's degree in organic chemistry from the State University of New York and a

Ph.D., in physical organic chemistry from New York University. Susan will use her expertise to take NCC to its next level of growth and "mine" the industry to add new intellectual properties to NCC's toolbox.

TWO NCC BOARD MEMBERS RECEIVE HONORS

William H. Gillespie III and William D. Lockwood, two NCC Board of Trustees, have been named winners of the prestigious Technical Leadership Award. The Affiliate Societies Council and The Engineering and Science Foundation of Dayton sponsor the award. William H. Gillespie's leadership in the development of innovative yet practical solutions for automotive stability and braking systems problems is one of several lifetime accomplishments that garnered his selection as a winner of this award. Director of Chassis Systems Engineering for Delphi Energy & Chassis, Bill is in a key position to support his engineering staff in their quest to produce safer, more reliable, lower cost transportation systems for the public. Bill has also been the recipient of the Safety Engineering Excellence Award by the Highway Traffic and Safety Administration for his pioneering work in anti-lock braking systems.



William D. Lockwood is a pioneer in the field of civil engineering. He has created four distinct businesses (Lockwood, Jones and Beals, CON/STEEL, CON/SPAN and BridgeTek) - a major accomplishment in and of itself. His greatest accomplishment however, is his innovative approach to his target markets.

By considering whole systems, not individual projects and examining total design and construction processes rather than discrete parts, he has industrialized and advanced the production and construction of buildings and bridges. In essence, Bill's innovations parallel those made by Henry Ford who combined the elements of system, continuity, speed and repetition to build the first assembly line and mass-produce the Model T. Bill simply made this same concept work for bridges and buildings.

We at NCC are proud to be associated with these outstanding gentlemen and pleased with their support as members of our Board of Trustees.

NCC PARTICIPATES IN TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD MEETINGS

NCC attended the Transportation Research Board (TRB) meetings in Washington, DC on Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composite applications in infrastructure. The meetings focused on development of specifications for FRP materials for bridges, performance evaluation of FRP bridges and FRP repairs, next generation composites and application of composites for bridge structures.

NCC presented two papers at the TRB Structural Fiber Reinforced Plastics Committee meeting. The papers covered the Status of FRP Projects in Ohio and Modular Bridge Design – a new concept trending the FRP bridge deck market in Ohio (smaller bridges, mechanical connections). NCC also attended the Market Development Alliance (MDA) Composite Bridge Team meeting as a guest. The meeting's primary agenda was specifications for FRP Bridges currently in development by contracts from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).