



COMPOSITESWORLD Expo 2008 Technical Conference and Exhibition a Huge Success

News Release - For Immediate Release:

CONTACT: Kimberly Hoodin / Marketing Manager
Phone: 513.527.8800 Ext.254
Fax: 513.527.8801
E-mail : khoodin@gardnerweb.com

September 18, 2008 - (Cincinnati, OH) — COMPOSITESWORLD, publisher of *High-Performance Composites* and *Composites Technology* magazines, has deemed its inaugural COMPOSITESWORLD Expo 2008 Technical Conference and Exhibition a rousing success. Held at the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center in Schaumburg, Ill., on Sept. 2-5, 2008, the conference and exhibition drew nearly 1,600 attendees, many of whom are new to the industry and are looking for the products, processes and technology needed to help them update their practices and enter the world of composites. COMPOSITESWORLD Expo 2008 provided them just what they were looking for.

The two-track Technical Conference, presented by the renowned COMPOSITESWORLD Conferences team, focused on principles of design and manufacture of composite materials and received excellent reviews from attendees. The Introductory Track was designed for attendees who are new to the composites industry, including those familiar with traditional materials-engineering industries, such as metalworking. Sessions acquainted them with the properties of fiber-reinforced polymers, the principles of CAD/CAM design and the unique challenges involved in manufacturing with composites. Sessions also outlined the wide variety of manufacturing processes that can be used to form composites, including compression and infusion molding; resin transfer molding (RTM), vacuum-assisted RTM (VARTM) and light RTM (LRTM); and prepreg with autoclave curing — with advice on how to select the process that will best accomplish the design and performance goals for a particular application.

The Advanced Track began with an overview of finite element analysis (FEA), design and manufacturing software, such as CATIA and FiberSIM, and how these programs can be integrated into product development and toolmaking regimes for advanced composite design and processing. Among the topics discussed by presenters were the creation of complex ply books, and the automated fiber placement (AFP) and automated tape laying (ATL) systems.

“It was gratifying to me and our conference speakers to see many new faces in our conference audience, especially in the Introductory Track,” says COMPOSITESWORLD Conferences

director Scott Stephenson. "It showed us that we were able to get the word out to many people in the traditional materials processing industry eager to learn more about composite materials and processing."

Keynote addresses were at full capacity as attendees were primed to hear the latest composites technology news and market reports. Dr. Linda A. Cadwell Stancin, manager, material and process technology – product development, Commercial Airplanes, The Boeing Co. presented the Wednesday keynote address "Composites Technology: One of the Key Elements for Performance-Driven Commercial Aircraft." The Thursday keynote address "*Corvette ZR1*: Composites, Performance and Automotive Passion" was presented by Tadge J. Juechter, Corvette and Cadillac XLR chief engineer, General Motors. And a standing-room-only crowd heard Chris Red, editor and VP of Market Research, Composite Market Reports (CMR, Gilbert, Ariz.) present the lunchtime lesson on Thursday, "Outlook for Composite Wind Turbine Blade Manufacturing."

The technical conference ran concurrent with a vibrant exhibition that represented all facets of the composites industry. More than 80 exhibitors presented the newest and most innovative products, processes and technologies to the event attendees. "We had a wonderful and exciting four-day event," says COMPOSITESWORLD's publisher Ryan Delahanty. "I heard time and time again from our exhibitors that we attracted an extremely qualified group of composites decision-makers to our exhibition. In some cases, our exhibitors were able to make connections and build new business relationships that they have been trying to create for several years."

COMPOSITESWORLD Expo 2009 will be held Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2009 at the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center in Schaumburg, Ill.

COMPOSITESWORLD, with offices in Cincinnati, Ohio, Wheat Ridge, Colo. and Yarmouth, Maine, is a provider of information to the composites industry through *High-Performance Composites* and *Composites Technology* magazines and *COMPOSITESWORLD Conferences*, as well as its *COMPOSITESWORLD Weekly E-newsletter* and its Web site: www.compositesworld.com.