"Re-shoring" is a trend that has started and will provide business opportunities for manufacturers that are prepared to capitalize on it. RCBI can assist manufacturers with many leading-edge "Additive Manufacturing" processes. Check out these stories about what's going on nationally, and contact RCBI to learn more to get additional details.

Why the Future of American Manufacturing Looks Brighter Than is Generally Understood


Domestic energy, manufacturing "re-shoring" to usher in America's next boom
http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/an-economic-boom-ahead/2012/05/04/gIQAbj5K2T_story.html

3-D Printing Grows in Popularity
RCBI offers this incredibly innovative technology that is making news nationwide.

Summer is anything but a slow time at the Robert C. Byrd Institute! We continue to work with companies across West Virginia and throughout the region, providing access to cutting-edge technology and specialized training programs.

Check out the latest information on Additive Manufacturing, plus get an update on what's coming up at RCBI.

Additive Manufacturing triggering a revolution around the world

Additive Manufacturing provides incredible opportunities for companies looking to innovate and create. The Robert C. Byrd Institute allows them to do it close to home.
By CHARLOTTE WEBER

HUNTINGTON - Our language is always expanding and adding new words. But in recent years, primarily due to the rise of technology, new words are coming at us at a pace we’ve never known. We’re caught in a linguistic tsunami.

Consider a few examples: It wasn’t that many years ago that none of us had heard the term “cell phone.” Today, it seems nobody, from the youngest child to your Aunt Sadie, is willing to leave home without one. And then there’s “twitter” and “hash tag,” to say nothing of “social media” or the use of “friend” as a verb.

Now technology has given us another new term: “Additive Manufacturing.” It’s an expression you may not have encountered yet, but it describes a new process that’s triggering a revolution in the way we make things.

Additive Manufacturing - sometimes called “AM” for short - is the “addition” of layer-upon-layer of material to build a 3D object, whether the material is plastic, metal or some other substance. Obviously, this method is radically different from traditional machining techniques that mostly rely not on addition but on subtraction - the removal of material by drilling, cutting, etc. - or use presses to bend or shape material into a desired form.

Read the full column:


Harrison Chamber Business After Hours attracts big turnout at RCBI Bridgeport
To spotlight the cutting edge technologies available at its Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center in Bridgeport, RCBI played host to members of the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce at the June 2 Business After-Hours event.

Guided tours of the RCBI facility, refreshments and door prizes were provided to the visiting Chamber members, their families and guests.

Client companies that use RCBI’s services also were on hand to display a sampling of items they manufacture.

New program will assist in training workers that manufacturers need

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, which already works with the Robert C. Byrd Institute, is teaming up with Bridgemont Community and Technical College on a new program to help students earn while they learn.

The program is likely to expand to additional companies as the state and the West Virginia Manufacturers Association work together to create a properly trained work force for 21st Century jobs.

That same philosophy is shared by RCBI, of course, which offers training classes and equipment leases to companies across the region.

For more about the new Toyota-Bridgemont partnership, see http://www.register-herald.com/todaysfrontpage/x1318686469/Tomblin-unveils-learn-and-earn-plan

RCBI hires CNC machinist/trainer

HUNTINGTON - Christina Craigo of Liberty, West Virginia, has joined the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) as a CNC machinist/technical trainer.

Craigo graduated from RCBI’s Machinist Technology Program in 2000 with high honors and a perfect attendance record. She returns to RCBI with extensive industrial experience. She was employed by Mouldagraph Corp. in Nitro, West Virginia, from 2006 until May of this year. Before that she worked at Engines Inc., Azimuth Inc., Richwood Industries and Extreme Archery.

"We're proud of all our machinist graduates and we're especially proud and pleased to have Christina come back to us as an experienced CNC machinist and technical trainer," said Charlotte Weber, RCBI director.
and CEO. "We welcome her back and look forward to working with her."

A native of Willow Wood, Ohio, Craigo is a graduate of Buckeye Hills Career Center. She will be based at the RCBI Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center in Huntington but will have statewide responsibilities.

Thank you for your time and your support of RCBI. As always, please let us know if there’s anything we can do to assist you or your business!

Sincerely,

Charlotte Weber
Director and CEO

What RCBI Does

The Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Manufacturing (RCBI) encourages job creation, economic development, innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting manufacturing companies of all sizes. We offer cutting-edge equipment use and specialized training for everyone from sole proprietors to Fortune 500 companies.

Simply put, our goal is to use our Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers across West Virginia to provide the resources that individuals and companies need to create, sustain and expand their businesses. In addition to providing leased use of cutting-edge equipment, workforce development programs and customized training, RCBI assists companies in networking and procurement, particularly with federal contracts.

The technologies available at RCBI Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers in Huntington, Charleston, Bridgeport and Rocket Center are among the best in the world, providing companies in the Mid-Atlantic region services that would not otherwise be readily available to them. In particular RCBI offers Additive Manufacturing (AM) through its Design Works labs, and is a national Center of Excellence for composite materials providing support to NASA engineers as well as first-tier DoD suppliers in West Virginia. These activities help ensure that RCBI fulfills its mission of developing a quality, just-in-time supplier base for the Department of Defense (DoD) as well as other agencies and the commercial sector.