IOF-WV Innovation & Entrepreneurship Day at the Capitol set for March 11

RCBI will join with nearly 50 other innovation groups and companies as part of “IOF-WV, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Day at the Capitol,” which will occur March 11, 2013 at the State Capitol. The event is organized by Industries of the Future - West Virginia and TechConnect West Virginia and is designed to showcase West Virginia’s economy of the future.

“This day is intended to showcase innovation companies, agencies, entrepreneurs, and startup firms that are leaders in innovation and entrepreneurial activities,” said Anne Barth, TCWV’s Executive Director. She added that the event is a great way to provide information to legislators, network with colleagues about ideas and initiatives and help promote strategies that will increase jobs, create new businesses, and spur economic development.

RCBI will set up an exhibit focusing on Additive Manufacturing that includes one of its 3D printers.

“We will be sharing the exciting news about 3D printing and talking about the role that RCBI will be taking as a lead entity in the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute,” said Charlotte Weber, RCBI Director & CEO.

For more information, visit these websites: Industries of the Future - WV: www.iofw.nrcce.wvu.edu/DAT_Capital.cfm


Greetings!

The Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) continues to find new and exciting ways to serve not only West Virginia but people around the Appalachian Region. Our efforts are being noticed, including mention of one of our key initiatives in the State of the Union address!

We’re pleased to continue working with educators, and we’re proud of our students’ successes. You’ll see more about those efforts in this monthly update.

We appreciate your interest in what is happening at RCBI and are always happy to answer your questions.

Remember, you can get more information on our website:

www.rcbi.org
Quick Video Links

Video - 3D printing is revolutionary, 'as big as the internet'
BBC News, Jan. 24, 2013

Video - Shapeways 3-D printing factory boosts 'Made in USA'
CNNMoney.com, Jan. 22, 2013

Video: 3D printing - a new industrial revolution?
BBC, Nov. 28, 2012
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-20137791

Video: 3D Printing - "The Next Trillion-Dollar Industry"

Information sessions set on RCBI machinist training

Is a career in manufacturing right for you? Here’s your opportunity to find out.

The Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) has scheduled information sessions to showcase its nationally certified Machinist Technology Program to prospective students at its Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers in Bridgeport and Huntington.

The information session at the RCBI Bridgeport facility is scheduled Friday, March 15, at 10 a.m. Conveniently adjacent to the North Central West Virginia Airport, RCBI Bridgeport is located in the Benedum Industrial Park at 2400 E. Benedum Industrial Drive.

The session at the RCBI Huntington facility is scheduled Thursday, March 28, at 10 a.m. The RCBI Huntington Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center is located in the city's downtown business district at Fourth Avenue and 11th Street.

RCBI staff members and instructors will be available to discuss admission requirements, enrollment, payment options and answer questions about the hands-on training program. Because class sizes are kept small to ensure each student has as much individual interaction as possible with the program's instructors, early enrollment is encouraged.

For more information, call 800.469.RCBI (7224) or e-mail machinistprogram@rcbi.org.

Additive manufacturing initiative with RCBI gets mention in State of the Union speech

A major manufacturing initiative in which the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) is a key player has received national recognition, including praise from President Obama in his State of the Union address.

RCBI is a partner in the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute (NAMII). It recently was named as one of the top 10 "Innovations to Watch" by The Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program and the Rockefeller Foundation. President Obama wants to replicate the model, in which RCBI is a founding partner.

"There are things we can do, right now, to accelerate this trend," Obama said in the State of the Union. "Last year, we created our first manufacturing innovation institute in Youngstown, Ohio. A once-shuttered warehouse is now a state-of-the-art lab where new workers are mastering the 3D printing that has the potential to revolutionize the way we make almost everything.

"There’s no reason this can’t happen in other towns. So tonight, I’m announcing the launch of three more of these manufacturing hubs, where businesses will partner with the Departments of Defense and Energy to turn regions left behind by globalization into global centers of high-tech jobs. And I ask this Congress to help create a network of fifteen of these hubs and guarantee that the next revolution in manufacturing is Made in America."

RCBI is proud to be part of NAMII and looks forward to continued innovation that leads to job creation.

"These exciting announcements prove that RCBI continues its place among the leading manufacturing service providers not only in our state but in the country," Director and CEO Charlotte Weber said. "We’re honored to be included in this project and as a leading innovation."
Few seats remain for NASA Museum in a Box event

More than 30 teachers already have registered to take advantage of a great opportunity to inspire science and math students, but a few seats still are available for the March 9 NASA Museum in a Box training session at RCBI.

A special partnership involving the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) and NASA is making this exciting opportunity available to teachers across West Virginia. NASA's Museum in a Box provides exciting hands-on/minds-on lessons with an aeronautics theme to inspire future scientists, mathematicians and engineers.

Teachers from across the state are invited to attend a free workshop, Composite Technology in the Classroom -- Museum in a Box, Saturday, March 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the RCBI Bridgeport Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center. There they will tour West Virginia's own National Composite Center of Excellence and receive training from NASA on introducing composite technology in the classroom.

So far 31 teachers from more than two dozen counties across West Virginia have registered. Pass the word and make sure your county is included! For more information or to register call 800-469-RCBI (7224) or sign up online at www.rcbi.org/compositeclassroom.

To learn more about NASA's Museum in a Box program, see www.aeronautics.nasa.gov/mib.htm

RCBI Locations

Huntington
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Charleston
***
Bridgeport
***
Rocket Center

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For more information about NAMII's inclusion as a top innovation, visit http://namii.org/2013/01/21/namii-named-one-of-the-top-ten-most-innovative-economic-development-initiatives-by-the-brookings-institution-and-the-rockefeller-foundation/

RCBI has played a key role in helping Walhonde Tools Inc. grow and expand its West Virginia-based operations.

Success Story: West Virginia's Walhonde Tools serves Fortune 500 customers with RCBI help

Walhonde Tools Inc. is a West Virginia company that credits manufacturing assistance from the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) as being instrumental in successes that are helping ensure the company's growth and expansion.
The Kanawha County company designs, develops, manufactures and markets 10 different-sized patented precision tube and pipe fitting tools for the power, pulp and paper, petrochemical, food and drug processing and shipbuilding/repair industries worldwide. Walhonde's innovative tools:

- improve quality control as fewer welds are subject to x-ray,
- increase productivity ranging from 50 percent to 300 percent and
- enhance safety, eliminating most pulling devices.

Walhonde customers include many Fortune 500 companies, the U.S Navy, NASA, contractors and international concerns.

J. Kay McClure, president and owner of Walhonde Tools, said that because of RCBI, the state's manufacturers have access to specialized technologies and technical training.

"RCBI is instrumental in helping many smaller West Virginia companies like ours," McClure said. "For more than a decade RCBI has provided us with access to cutting edge technologies that we in no other way could afford -- and the training and expertise we need to use it properly. This ongoing assistance continues to make it possible for us to compete and succeed in today's global market."

The company is a participant in Startup WV Manufacturing, a program funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration and administered through a partnership of TechConnect West Virginia and RCBI. To read more about Walhonde's relationship with RCBI, click here: www.rcbi.org/user-assets/Documents/success_stories/WalhondeToolsSuccessStory.pdf

Third District Accelerator picks up speed

Businesses in West Virginia's Third Congressional District are invited to participate in a new initiative called the Third District Accelerator, which will
provide workforce development and business assistance services to two key business clusters - small manufacturers and tourism-related businesses.

The services, which are open to businesses in 10 southern counties, will include training and workforce development, e-business marketing and entrepreneurial support, and advanced manufacturing tools. For more information click www.rcbi.org/3rdDistrictAccelerator/overview.pdf

A kickoff meeting to explain the program is scheduled Monday, March 18 at 10 a.m. at Concord University, and Congressman Nick Rahall is slated to attend. Partners in the Third District Accelerator include Marshall University, the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing, Concord University, the Natural Capital Investment Fund, and TechConnect West Virginia.

**Students visit Design Works Lab at RCBI Huntington**

High School students from Wayne County who toured the RCBI Huntington facility on February 11 got a close-up look at the RCBI Design Works lab. Here RCBI Design Engineer Ron Cabacar demonstrates 3D files that are then sent to a 3D printer. The printer uses Additive Manufacturing technology to turn the digital file into a finished prototype product. Students from Spring Valley, Wayne and Tolsia high schools participated in the demonstration.
41 RCBI machinist students named to dean's lists

Forty-one RCBI machinist students have been named to the deans' lists at their respective community colleges across West Virginia.

The total includes all 11 students enrolled in the Machinist Technology Program at the RCBI Rocket Center Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center. The 11 were named to the fall semester dean's list at Potomac State College of West Virginia University.

"This is quite an achievement for these future machinists at Rocket Center, one they certainly should be proud of and one that we take pride in as well," said RCBI Director and CEO Charlotte Weber.


At RCBI Bridgeport, six machinist technology students were named to the dean's list at Mountwest Community & Technical College. They were Brian Barker of Clarksburg, W.Va.; Zachary Miller of Wellsburg, W.Va.; Stephen Morris of Fairmont, W.Va.; Michael Pinkstaff of Daytona Beach, Fla., and Morgantown, W.Va.; Cameron Poling of Grafton, W.Va., and Kane Tovkovitch of Kingwood, W.Va.

In addition, Bridgeport student Poling finished first in Machine Tool Technologies in the recent local Skills USA competition. He represented Grafton High School and United Technical Center.

Six students in the CNC (Computer Numerical Control) Specialist Program at RCBI Bridgeport also were named to the Mountwest dean's list. They were Edward Thompson of Beverly, W.Va.; Aaron Slahor and Kristopher Jones of Morgantown, W.Va.; Matthew Sites of Dorcas, W.Va.; Daniel Nelson of Salem, W.Va., and Alex Callihan of Lost Creek, W.Va.

Fifteen machinist technology students at
RCBI Huntington were named to the Mountwest dean's list. They were Cameron Arthur of Ripley, W.Va.; Chester Bailey of Lesage, W.Va.; David Dean of Kenova, W.Va.; Christopher Eaves of Wayne, W.Va.; Jerry Finley of Ceredo, W.Va.; Zachery Frazier and Russell Sweet of Salt Rock, W.Va.; Matthew Hill and Everett Pinkerman of Barboursville, W.Va; Robert Klinestiver of Ashton, W.Va.; Ashlie Musser, Jacob Smith, Travis Spurlock and Sturgis Swain of Huntington, W.Va., and William Steen of Ashland, Ky.

Three CNC students at RCBI Huntington were named to the Mountwest dean's list. There were Anthony Johnson of Buffalo, W.Va.; David Nance of Barboursville, W.Va., and Nathan Scaggs of Culloden, W.Va.

For more information about the nationally certified machinist training offered at RCBI, call 800.469.RCBI (7224) or e-mail machinistprogram@rcbi.org.

Eight welding students named to dean's list

Eight students in the Welding Technology Program at the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) have been named to the fall semester dean's list at Mountwest Community and Technical College.

Students on the list include Warren Cottle, James Davidson, John Erdlitz, Danny McGowan Jr. and Paul Nida of Huntington; Donald Davis of Barboursville, W.Va.; Jezze Mezo of Proctorville, Ohio, and Christopher Scarberry of Ona, W.Va.

For more information or to enroll in the program, e-mail cburns@rcbi.org.
Leadership Harrison members tour RCBI

Members of the Harrison County Chamber Leadership Program spent Friday, Feb. 15, learning about the county’s aerospace industry. Included in the day-long event was a tour of the RCBI Bridgeport Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center.

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

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and the Web!

www.rcbi.org

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
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.