Japanese firm to manufacture parts at RCBI tech centers

A Japanese company exploring the potential of a facility in West Virginia will initially manufacture products and 3D print prototypes at RCBI. TEKNIA Group, based in Nagoya, has been in talks the past year with representatives from the West Virginia Development Office, the Charleston Area Alliance, the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing and the Mid-Atlantic Aerospace Complex about locating a manufacturing facility in West Virginia. The company already has agreed to open a marketing and research office in Charleston.

Read the story.

Mohawk expands its use of RCBI apprenticeship model

Mohawk Flooring, a leading global flooring manufacturer with operations in Holden, W.Va., is expanding its use of the RCBI apprenticeship model, Apprenticeship Works. The manufacturer will use the successful model in its Georgia operations.

Read the story.

State innovators awarded funding to develop ideas

Awardees receive seed funding

Five West Virginia companies and entrepreneurs recently were awarded early stage funding that will help them bring their innovative ideas to life. The recipients are M Rock Stone Manufacturing of Peterstown, Pettito Mine Equipment Inc. of Morgantown, New Vision Renewable Energy of Philippi, Entrepreneur Matt Webb of Huntington and Healthy Kids Inc. of Hurricane.
RCBI students earn 97% of WV metalworking credentials

The National Institute for Metalworking Skills awarded a record number of credentials (NIMS) last year to individuals seeking jobs in advanced manufacturing. In West Virginia, nearly all of those were through the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing's (RCBI) workforce training and apprenticeship programs. RCBI students and apprenticeship participants received more than 97 percent of the NIMS awarded in the state in 2015. RCBI provided additional NIMS certifications to individuals from Ohio. NIMS credentials ensure that machinists meet the highest industry standards for knowledge and hands-on competency in 24 areas of metalworking.

WV soapmaker cleans up using 3D Printing technology

A small West Virginia company landed a state contract after working with RCBI on a 3D Printing project. Phillip and Mary Peelish of Wild Mountain Soap in Fayetteville applied for and received assistance through InnovateWV. RCBI worked with the Peelishes to design dies that were then printed on one of RCBI's 3D printers. Read the story.

RCBI to offer Lean Six Sigma Greenbelt training this spring

A multi-week course covering Lean Six Sigma Green Belt training is being presented by the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI). Scheduled at RCBI Huntington (1050 Fourth Ave.) through SAI Global, the course will run daily May 9-13 and June 6-10.

TransTech winner to benefit from RCBI technical assistance

As winner of the 2015 TransTech Energy Business Development Conference, an Athens, Ohio-based company will receive technical assistance from RCBI to develop a combined heat and power unit for consumers. Read more.
University to host state biotech summit
The Sixth Annual West Virginia Bioscience Summit is April 26-27 at Marshall University. The summit brings together biotech companies, researchers, policy makers, economic developers, funders and others. Learn more.

Workshops focus on startup essentials
RCBI and the West Virginia Small Business Development Center (WVSBDC) are partners in training workshops that provide essential information on what an entrepreneur needs to know to start and operate a new business successfully. Learn more.

MU math department receives NSA grant
Marshall University's Department of Mathematics has been awarded a $170,000 grant from the National Security Agency (NSA) to fund undergraduate research and develop a science-oriented workforce in Appalachia. Learn more.

Marcellus and manufacturing conference is March 23-24
The 2016 Marcellus and Manufacturing Development Conference sponsored by the West Virginia Manufacturing Association is March 23-24 at the Charleston Civic Center. Now in its fifth year, the Marcellus and Manufacturing Development Conference draws companies interested in locating new facilities or expanding existing operations in the state.

The event also gives industry leaders and others the opportunity to learn more about the potential for ethane and ethylene-related product development in West Virginia. Learn more.

Technology fair helps U.S. companies connect abroad
Hannover Messe, the world's leading trade fair for industrial technology, offers an unprecedented opportunity for American companies to connect with global investors, buyers, distributors and others. For the first time, the United States is the partner country on the event, set for April 25-29 in Hannover, Germany. Learn more.

Upcoming events

March 2016
March 9 - 3D Printing for Educators Workshop at RCBI South Charleston
March 23 - Supply Chain Lunch & Learn at RCBI Huntington

April 2016
April 2 - WV Science & Engineering Fair at Fairmont State University
April 15-16 - SkillsUSA state competition in Bridgeport and at Camp Dawson
April 20 - Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Agriculture workshop at RCBI Bridgeport

Call 800.469.7224 or email frontdesk@rcbi.org for more information.

ABOUT US
The Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) provides leading-edge equipment, specialized training and staff expertise so entrepreneurs and manufacturers of all sizes can innovate, create jobs and thrive. Learn more online at www.rcbi.org.
Stay Connected

Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Twitter

800.469.7224