

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Edison Technology Centers Collaborate to Drive Ohio Aerospace Leadership

Edison Centers Support the Airbus Supplier Summit on December 7, 2009

CINCINNATI, October 28, 2009 - Ohio's legacy in manufacturing jet engines and advanced materials, combined with the State's strong support through the Thomas Edison Program, has made Ohio one of the top U.S. supplier concentrations in the aerospace industry. Over 600 Ohio companies with predominant aerospace ties support over 186,000 Ohio jobs. With growth expected in this sector, Airbus has chosen to hold its supplier summit at the Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI) in Cleveland, Ohio, on December 7, 2009.

Ohio's aerospace industry is nurtured by Ohio's seven Edison Technology Centers. The Thomas Edison Program was created to improve the competitiveness of Ohio manufacturers. The Ohio Edison Technology Centers are a public-private partnership that facilitates innovation and commercialization services to both established and emerging technology-based businesses.

"Each Center is uniquely designed to improve processes and maximize manufacturers' performance," explained Dr. Henry Cialone, President of the Edison Welding Institute (EWI) and Chairman of the Edison Centers' Director Council. He added, "Through its seven Edison Centers located throughout the state, Ohio's expertise in advanced manufacturing for aerospace is second to none. TechSolve, EMTEC, EWI, MAGNET, PolymerOhio, BioOhio, and CIFT provide a variety of technical assistance that serves the Ohio's aerospace supply chain that is very important to the future success of companies such as Airbus."

During 2006-2008, the Thomas Edison Center Program created or retained 5,402 jobs and established 51 new businesses in Ohio. For all companies assisted by Edison Centers and Incubators in 2006-2008, these companies collectively realized more than \$912 million in private investments, \$151 million in cost savings, and over \$2.3 billion in sales increases. In the same period of time, each \$1 of Edison Program funding generated \$122.72 in benefits for Ohio companies.

"We are proud of the accomplishments of the Edison Program. We are actively pursuing new opportunities in aerospace for Ohio. Airbus will certainly be a key contributor to Ohio's aerospace future," notes Gary Conley, President of TechSolve. TechSolve was awarded Edison funding by the Ohio Department of Development in support of efforts to drive growth in aerospace - one of the State of Ohio's key strategic focus industries.

Specifics on the Ohio Edison Technology Centers Supporting Aerospace

TechSolve, based in Cincinnati, is unique in offering an on-site, multi-million-dollar machining lab for real-world assessment and modeling. TechSolve experts use this lab to support the aerospace industry with enhanced machining services that increase productivity through optimization of machining parameters and reductions in part costs.

Edison Materials Technology Center (EMTEC) in Dayton provides technical coordination, business assistance, and commercialization to strengthen Ohio's aerospace competitiveness in advanced energy, metals and castings, nanomaterials, polymers, composites, biomaterials, and other advanced materials.

PRESS RELEASE

The Edison Welding Institute (EWI) meets the materials joining and engineering needs of aerospace manufacturers by providing current technology related to all types of welding processes.

The Manufacturing Advocacy Growth Network (MAGNET) helps aerospace suppliers in Northeast Ohio become more competitive through its product design and development services.

PolymerOhio helps the aerospace industry with the utilization of polymers, advanced materials, and bioproducts in the manufacture of parts in the aerospace industry.

Because of their connections with companies within Ohio's aerospace supply chain, Ohio's Edison Centers will be driving attendance to the Airbus Supplier Summit event on December 7, 2009. In addition, TechSolve and the Ohio Aerospace Institute recently partnered to serve the needs of Ohio's aerospace industry. More information on the upcoming event is available at www.oai.org.

Over the past 25 years, Cincinnati-based TechSolve has helped aerospace leaders and suppliers implement process improvement and advanced manufacturing solutions that deliver measurable top line and bottom-line results. TechSolve was awarded Edison funding by the Ohio Department of Development in support of efforts to drive growth in aerospace - one of the State of Ohio's key strategic focus industries. TechSolve implements Supplier Development, Lean Enterprise, Energy, Growth, and Machining Process Solutions that help companies increase profits and productivity throughout their organizations. More information is available at www.TechSolve.org.