# Carbon Fiber Technology Facility

#### **Dave Warren, Pl**

#### **Cliff Eberle, Presenter**

Technology Development Manager Polymer Matrix Composites Oak Ridge National Laboratory

May 16, 2012

Project ID # LM003

Status as of March 30, 2012

This presentation does not contain any proprietary, confidential, or otherwise restricted information







# Carbon Fiber Technology Facility (CFTF)

## Timeline

- Funds received FY10Q2
- Scheduled finish FY13Q4
- Forecast finish FY13Q2
- Currently in equipment fabrication and installation
  - Barriers addressed
    - Cost
    - Inadequate supply base
    - Manufacturability

## Interactions/ collaborations

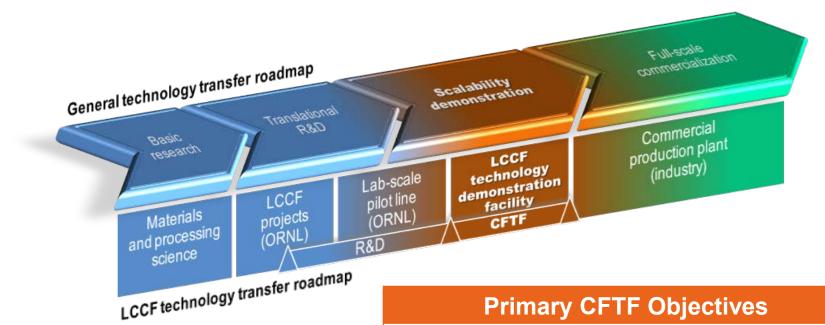
- Capital project subcontractors
- Future operation extensive
- Project lead ORNL

2 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy

- \$34.77M Budget
  - No cost share
- All funds have been received
  - ~ 47% of baseline costed thru Feb
  - All subcontracts to US companies



## **CFTF is the Bridge from R&D to Deployment and Commercialization**



## CFTF Mission and Capabilities are Unique to the World

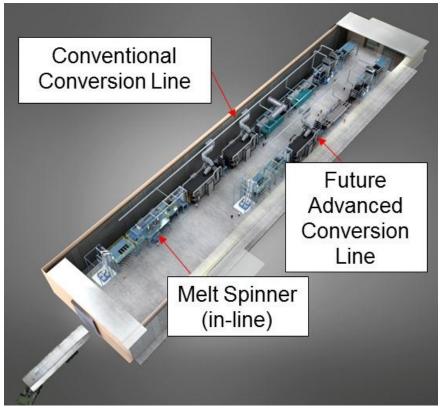
Demonstrate lowcost carbon fiber (LCCF) technology scalability with the last scaling step before full-scale commercial production Produce quantities of LCCF needed for large-scale material and process evaluations and prototyping



## Carbon Fiber Technology Center (CFTF) Snapshot

- Highly instrumented, highly flexible conventional carbon fiber line for "any precursor in any format"
- Melt-spun fiber line to produce precursor fibers
- Provisions for additional future equipment
- Produce up to 25 tonnes/year of carbon fibers
- Demonstrate technology scalability
- Train and educate workers
- Work in partnerships with industry





Facility and equipment perspective AK

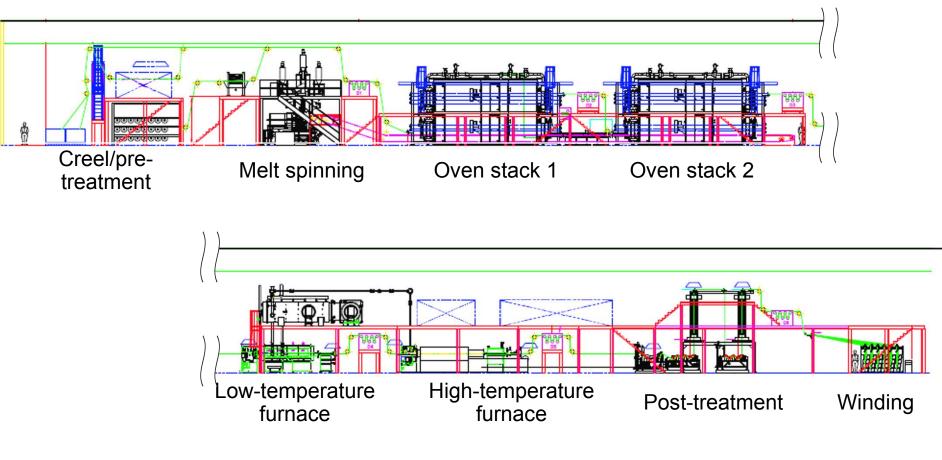
4 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energ

RIDGE Vational Laboratory

LM003

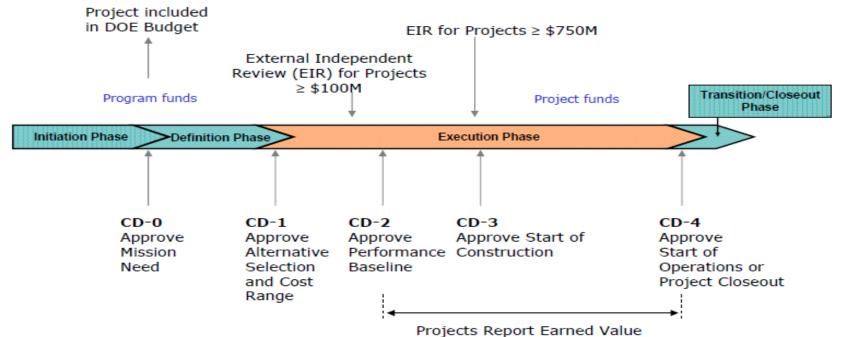
## **Equipment Scale**

- Production line length: ~390 ft
- Equipment height: ~25 ft





## Capital Project Executed per DOE Order 413.3b



Actions Authorized by Critical Decision (CD) Approval					
<b>CD-0</b>	CD-1	CD-2	CD-3	CD-4	
<ul> <li>Proceed with Conceptual Design</li> <li>Request PED funding</li> <li>Start monthly PARS &amp; Quarterly Project Performance reporting</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Allow Expenditure of PED Funds for preliminary design</li> <li>Approval of long-lead procurement if necessary</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Establish Performance Baseline</li> <li>Continue design</li> <li>Request construction funding</li> </ul>	• Approve expenditure of funds for construction	<ul> <li>Allow start of operations or project completion</li> </ul>	

PED = project engineering and design

PARS is a DOE project tracking system



Approach

## **Key Milestones**

Milestone	Status
CD-0	Issued Aug 2009
Equipment RFP's	Issued July 2010
Building lease	Awarded Oct 2010
NEPA documentation	Approved Jan 2011
CD-1/2/3 Approvals	Approved Mar 2011
Groundbreaking	Actual Apr 2011
Equipment contracts	Awarded Mar 2011
Building "dry-in"	Required May-12, Actual Nov-11
Equipment fabricated	Required Mar-13, forecast Jun-12
Equipment installed	Required June-13, forecast Aug-12
Equipment operational	Required Sept-13, forecast Jan-13
CD-4	Required Sept-13, forecast Feb-13

# **Procurement Strategy**

System	Award	Pricing	Performer	Comment
Building	Competitive	Fixed price	R&R Partners	Leased
Support equipment	With building	Cost	R&R Partners	
Carbon fiber line	Competitive	Fixed price	Harper Int'l	
CF equipment unloading	BOA	Cost	ESG Construction	Task order
CF line installation	Competitive	Fixed price	TBD	
Melt-spun fiber line	Competitive	Fixed price	Hills, Inc.	
MSF equipment unloading	Included	Fixed price	Hills, Inc.	
MSF line installation	Included	Fixed price	Hills, Inc.	

CF = carbon fiber

MSF = melt-spun fiber

BOA = Basic ordering agreement

## All subcontractors are US companies





Approach

# **CFTF is Located in an Industrial Park**



42k sq. ft. leased building – 10 year lease Offices, labs, mechanical, high bay

Highly accessible to industrial partners, with opportunity to locate other facilities nearby



# Capital Project is ON BUDGET and SCHEDULE

- Thru February, MIE budget tracking within 2% of baseline spending profile
- Unused contingency is 26% of unspent baseline
- Building is complete
- CD-4 forecast Feb 2013 vs. baseline Sept 2013
- Estimated equipment arrival dates:

Ox Oven Stack 1	4/20	Ox Oven Stack	2 6/6
LT Furnace	4/17	HT Furnace	5/4
Post Treatment	5/1	Material Transp	ort 5/23
Thermal Oxidizer	4/26	Melt Spinner	6/20

LT = low temperature, HT = high temperature, ox = oxidation

# Building

## Beneficial occupancy Nov 2011 Trim & finish completed Mar 2012











11 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy



Accomplishments



Photos courtesy of RRP, LLC



LM003

## **Carbon Fiber Line – Tow Transport**

#### • Capabilities:

- Spooled tow, with plans to add boxed tow feed
- Up to 24 tows in 3k 24k sizes
- 80k maximum tow size with less tows
- Six draw/tension units
- Driven passback rolls on oxidation ovens
- 12" wide web conveyance
- Factory testing Apr 17 (tow drives), Apr 19 (creel), and May 3 (winder)



for the U.S. Department of Energy

Creel

Photos courtesy of Izumi International and Harper International



RIDGE National Laboratory

## **Carbon Fiber Line – Oxidation Ovens**

#### • Capabilities:

- 400 °C temperature rating
- Four thermal zones
- Parallel, cross, or down-flow (first in the world)
- Sulfur-compatible zone
- Tow and web material forms

## • Factory testing completed Mar 29



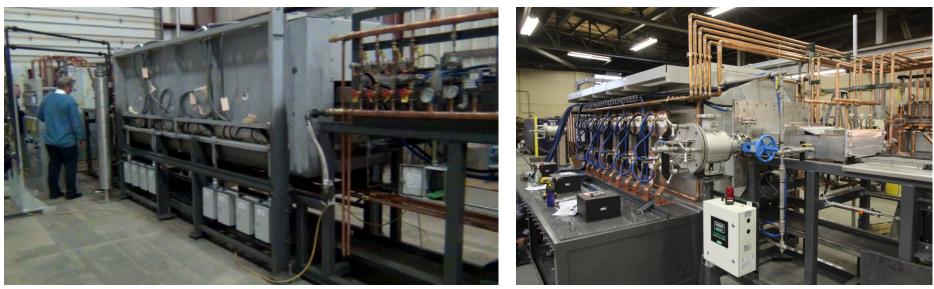
13 Managed by UT-Euleric for the U.S. Department of Energy



National Laboratory

## **Carbon Fiber Line – Carbonization Furnaces**

- Capabilities:
  - 1,000 °C and 2,000 °C temperature ratings, respectively
  - LT furnace corrosion resistant with fiber activation capability
  - Tow and web material forms
- Factory testing Mar 27 (LT furnace), Mar 28 (HT furnace mechanical), and Apr 9 (HT furnace electrical)



Low temperature furnace assembly

High temperature furnace assembly



14 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy

## **Carbon Fiber Line – Post Treatment**

- Capabilities:
  - Electrolytic surface treatment
  - Space allocated for future dry surface treatment
  - Sizing for aerospace and commodity resins
- Factory testing Apr 10



Surface treatment equipment



Sizing bath



15 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy

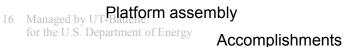
Photos courtesy of Harper International

# **Melt-Spun Fiber Production Line**

#### • Capabilities:

- > 10 kg/hr throughput
- 2,000 m/min tow speed
- 12" wide web direct-fed to carbon fiber line
- Runs most melt-stable polymers, rated to 450C
- Multi-component filaments
- Equipment fabrication and assembly proceeding on schedule for factory testing and shipment in June





Mounted spinhead assembly

Photos courtesy of Hills, Inc.





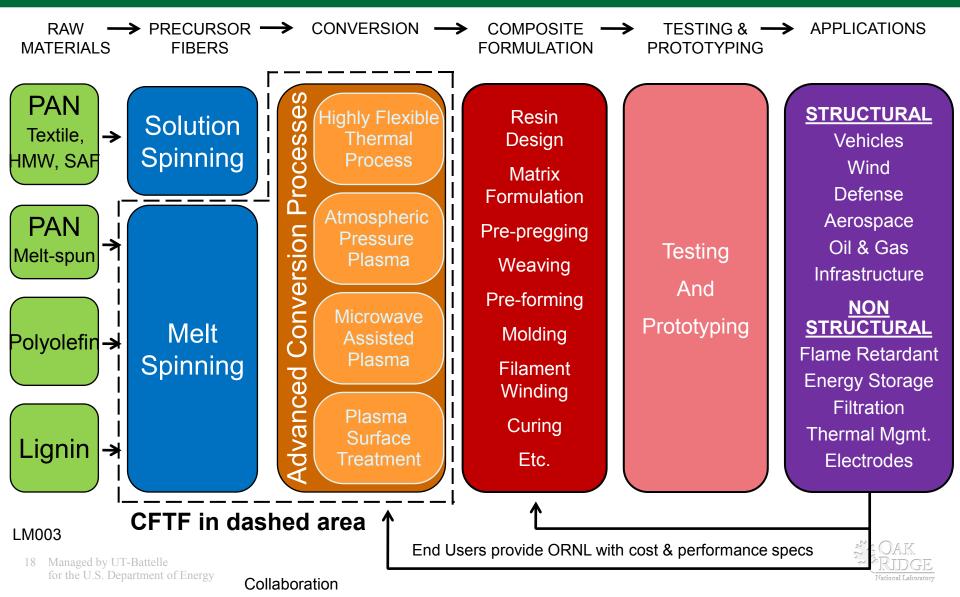
# Hazard and Operability Analysis Completed

- Describe system (unit operation)
- Postulate loss scenarios (sequences of events leading up to potential or actual losses, incidents or accidents)
- Define Risk = severity + likelihood
- Evaluate controls, barriers, safeguards
  - Planned/existing
  - Additional
- Over 75 actions were documented and being tracked to closure

Likelihood →	D (frequent)	3	2	1	1
	C (probable)	4	3	2	1
	B (remote)	4	4	3	2
	A (improbable)	4	4	4	3
	Risk	А	В	С	D
	Ranking	(Slight)	(Moderate)	(Severe)	(Catastrophic)
Д	Accomplishments				

LM003

## CFTF Engages the Composites Value Chain to Develop/Validate Low-Cost CF Composites Matls & Mfg Technologies & Grow the Supply Base



## **Collaboration in Workforce Training** Mission Area Beyond ARRA Capital Project



#### **Pool of Candidates**



#### **Oak Ridge National Laboratory**

MANAGED BY UT-BATTELLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### CARBON FIBER TECHNOLOGY FACILITY

- DOL grant funded
- Located at ORNL
- Industry focused training
- For qualified unemployed or under-employed

#### **Technician Internship Program**

High-quality STEM
 learning experience

RISE

- Collaboration with researchers in field of interest
- Growth of S&T talent

- Hands-on experience on complex CF line
- Learn S&T underpinning ORNL research
- Develop skills directly transferrable to industry



19 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy

#### Longer term Vision:

- Develop workforce training system for future carbon fiber manufacturing partners
- Develop internship and other training programs from high school through university graduate level



Photo courtesy of Michael Patrick & Knoxville News-Sentinel



LM003

## Significant Industry Engagement is Ongoing

- Five <u>industry-led</u> proposals to Advanced Manufacturing Office's Innovative Manufacturing Initiative include significant prototyping at CFTF
  - Polyolefin fibers (1)
  - Functional lignin fibers (1)
  - Textile PAN fibers (3)
- Serious discussions are ongoing with an equipment supplier on processing trials that will exploit unique CFTF capabilities
- We receive frequent inquiries and are in multiple discussions that cannot yet be termed "serious"



# **Plans for the Next Year**

- Complete equipment fabrication & factory testing
- Complete equipment installation
- Conduct site acceptance testing for all unit operations and system commissioning
- Hire and train staff for commissioning
- Secure CD-4 approval and commence operations – forecast for Feb 2013
- Continue building and executing industrial partnerships



## Summary

- CFTF is an essential asset for scaling and deploying low-cost carbon fiber technologies
- CFTF addresses cost, inadequate supply chain, and manufacturability barriers
- CFTF is a CAPITAL project and is currently within schedule and budget
- Within the next year, we expect to complete equipment fabrication, installation, commissioning, and commencement of operations
- CFTF is driving significant industrial and educational collaboration



## **ORNL Carbon Fiber R&D Tech Team**



Felix Paulauskas



Amit Naskar



Nidia Gallego



Cliff Eberle



Frederick Baker



Soydan Ozcan



Mohamed Abdallah



**Robert Norris** 



Dave Warren



Ken Yarborough



Brian Eck



Brian Eckhart



Tomonori Saito



Daniel Webb



Marcus Hunt

Istional Laborator

# **ORNL Carbon Fiber R&D Tech Team (2)**



Pol Grappe



**David Jackson** 



Lex Nunnery



Mike Kaufman



**Orlando Rios** 



Tim Bigelow



Phil Pesavento





Stephanie Diem Frederic Vautard



Dipendu Saha



Joshua Perkins



Shane Harton



Jimmy Mays



