

USACA NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON OPERATIONS REPORT



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NOVEMBER, 2007

FY2008 Defense Funding Bill Passed and Signed, Delays for Other Agencies

On November 13th President Bush signed the FY2008 Defense Appropriations bill into law. This was one of two appropriations bills presented to him by congress; the second, Bush explained, "is for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. This bill is 44 days late and nearly \$10 billion over budget, and filled with more than 2,000 earmarks... Congress owes the taxpayers much better than this effort. And so today in the Oval Office I vetoed this bill. Congress needs to cut out that pork, reduce the spending, and send me a

responsible measure that I can sign into law." It remains unclear when appropriations bills for these agencies will be passed and signed into law. The President framed his resistance to this bill as part of a larger stance against congress's upshot in spending requests: "This year alone, the leadership in Congress has proposed to spend \$22 billion more than my budget provides. Now, some of them claim that's not really much of a difference -- the scary part is they seem to mean it."

The *Politico's* Martin Kady predicted that Congress would use an omni-

bus spending bill to cover eleven agency spending bills before Christmas: "Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) told *Politico* last week that he expects to sit down with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) and White House chief of staff Josh Bolton to negotiate over all spending figures sometime in mid-December."

The president also chastised congress for failing to deal with the current surge in oil prices in their new energy bill: "Another priority that Congress has failed to meet is energy. Leaders of both (cont. p. 2)



President Bush discusses funding deadlock in Iowa on Nov. 13th.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *SAFRAN USA profile, p.3*
- *Highlights from fall meeting, p.4*

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Ceramics Manufacturing Funded in FY2008 Defense Appropriations Bill

The FY2008 Defense Appropriations bill, signed into law on November 13th included funding for several important manufacturing programs that can support the ceramics industry. The bill provided \$45 million for the following initiatives:

—\$5 million for the

New OSD Manufacturing Technology program requested in the Pentagon's FY '08 budget (\$10 million was requested so Congress cut the program by \$5 million.

—\$8 million for the new Disruptive Manufacturing Technology Research program

—\$8 million for the High Performance Defense Manufacturing Technology Research and Development program

—\$24 million for the Industrial Base Innovation fund

Per the discussion at the October 25 (cont. p. 4)

AGENCY FUNDING (CONT.)

parties understand that America's dependence on oil creates problems for our economy, and our environment, and our national security. When they were elected last November, majority leaders in Congress promised to pass an energy bill to reduce our dependence on oil." Less likely, however, is passage of either the Farm or Energy bills.

Jason Vance, of the Iowa paper *Wallaces Farmer*, expressed fears that key congressional players are giving up efforts to complete the energy bill this year: "Senator Pete Domenici, R-N.M., the ranking member on the Senate Energy Committee, has said the increased Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is the most important piece of the Energy Bill. Because of the gridlock on the Energy Bill he has decided to try to attach it to the Farm Bill, which currently is stalled over limiting amendments." Some in congress had been hoping to pass the energy bill before Christmas, but Domenici's decision to pull the RFS measure out of

the energy bill indicates that some of the most informed insiders deem this unlikely.

On the prospects of the energy bill, Kady predicts, "Democrats are also negotiating amongst themselves over an energy bill, and a breakthrough will come only if manufacturing-state Democrats like John Dingell (D-Mich.) find common ground with Democratic leaders on corporate average fuel economy standards."

Sponsor a breakfast or an afternoon break at Daytona

Sponsorship Fee: \$500

Promote your company by being a sponsor at one of our breaks during the Daytona Conference. The refreshment/networking breaks this year will be setup in the ballroom with different food stations available. USACA is also arranging for free exhibit space around the break area for companies to set up displays and showcase products. The new arrangement for daily breaks provides an excellent opportunity to advertise your company. If you elect to sponsor a break, your company name & logo will be posted on a sign as the sponsor of the scheduled break. Exhibit tables will be made available at No Charge.

For more information please contact Shelley Luehring by Dec. 7th:

Shelley@strategicmi.com or
(202) 467-5459 ext.227

32nd Annual Conference on Composites Materials and Structures

When: 28 January – 1 February 2008

Where: Hilton Daytona Beach Ocean Walk Village
Daytona Beach, FL

Purpose of Conference: The conference provides a forum for export-controlled information relating to advanced materials including ceramic, metal and carbon matrix composites and their constituents. In order to improve the archiving of advanced U.S. hypersonics materials technologies, a Joint Hypersonics TPS and Hot Structures Session is being co-sponsored by the Joint Army Navy NASA Air Force (JANNAF). Conference proceedings will be published as an export controlled (ITAR) report and will be sent to all registrants.

Host: United States Advanced Ceramics Association, The Ceramic, Metal and Carbon Composites Committee (CMC³) of the Advanced Composites Working Group (ACWG) in cooperation with the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

Registration: The registration cost is \$470. Please register on-line at (**Acteva website**).

Please visit the website for the latest update on Daytona Beach Conference '08 at <http://www.daytonabeachconference.com/>.

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New Member

Profile: SAFRAN USA

USACA welcomes SAFAN USA as our newest member— The SAFRAN Group represents over 7,000 employees in the united states in its various member corporations. Ronald Colunga, Director of Business Development, Military Maintenance and Repair, explained that by joining USACA SAFRAN hopes to learn as much as possible about the expanding market of advanced ceramics.

Prominent among SAFRAN Group members in the US is Messier-Bugatti, which manufactures carbon brakes in Walton, Kentucky. These carbon brakes are used in the military's KC135 and C17 airplanes.

Another SAFRAN Group member of interest is Turbomeca USA. From their facility in Grand Prairie, Texas Turbomeca USA specializes in servicing the Arriel and Arrius families of helicopters and is a leading manufacturer of helicopter turbine engines.

Again we welcome SAFRAN to USACA and look forward to working with them.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

January 28 - February 1, 2008
[32nd International Conference & Exposition on Advanced Ceramics and Composites](#)

Call for Papers Now Available
 Hilton Daytona Beach Resort and Ocean Center
 Daytona Beach, Florida

February 24-27, 2008
[Materials Innovations in an Emerging Hydrogen Economy](#)

Co-organized by ACerS and ASM International
 Hilton Cocoa Beach
 Cocoa Beach, Florida

May 25-28, 2008
[10th International Conference on Ceramic Processing Science \(ICCP-10\)](#)

Endorsed by The American Ceramic Society
 Inuyama International Sightseeing Center Inuyama
 Aichi Japan

June 1-5, 2008
[The 15th International Conference on Textures of Materials \(ICOTOM 15\)](#)

Organized by The American Ceramic Society and The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS)
 Carnegie Mellon University Center
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA

June 29 - July 3, 2008
[2nd International Congress on Ceramics](#)

Verona, Italy

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[2nd International Congress on Ceramics](#)

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October 5-9, 2008
[Materials Science & Technology 2008 Conference and Exhibition - MS&T '08 combined with the ACerS 110th Annual Meeting](#)

David L. Lawrence Convention Center
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

November 3-7, 2008
[The 9th International Symposium on Ceramic Materials and Components for Energy and Environment Applications](#)

Shanghai, China

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FALL MEETING IN WASHINGTON, DC

The 2007 Fall USACA Meeting was held on October 25, 2007 at the Capitol Hill Club in SE Washington, DC. The 2007 budget was reviewed, and the projected budget for 2008 was proposed by Jim Steibel. USACA is projected to close 2007 with an \$8,768 surplus.

The new page sponsorship program, which is designed to provide recruitment opportunities at the conference for USACA members, was also reviewed. Glen Mandigo spoke on plans to have table top exhibits in the morning and afternoon refreshment break areas. This will give USACA members the opportunity to sponsor the food breaks, and there will be no charge for the table top exhibit space.

Roberta Hines from HITCO Carbon Composites was elected unanimously to serve as USACA Vice Chair on the USACA Executive Committee.

USACA's work to submit SBIR cluster topics to the Joint Strike Fighter program office, in response to an invitation to do so at the USACA May Technical conference was reviewed by Doug Freitag. USACA submitted three cluster topics for the 2008.2 and 2008.3 solicitation rounds.

Glen Mandigo presented SMI's USACA Program plan for 2008. The plan focused on Market development, Federal program advocacy, Industry representation, Daytona Beach conference, and Member services.

We would like to extend special thanks to all of the afternoon speakers: John Garnier, Dennis Padilla, Paul Piscopo, and Arun Seraphin.

DEFENSE FUNDING (CONT.)

USACA Fall meeting, Department of Defense plans for the Industry Wide Propulsion Initiative fit under the descriptions of these new Manufacturing programs such that OSD has the option to proceed with \$5 million planned for the Propulsion Initiative. Congressional clarification may be required and USACA will work to generate support for plans to move forward with the Industry Wide Propulsion Initiative.

Send us your Job Openings!

To have your listings included, free of charge, send a brief description to:

USACA@strategicmi.com

or

202-467-5459

JOB LISTINGS

Senior Fiber Engineer

Company:

MATECH Global Strategic Materials

Location:

Westlake Village, California

Experience:

Fiber engineer with direct hands-on experience with all aspects of fiber manufacturing, equipment design/operation from polymer preparation through high temperature pyrolysis and sintering.

Description:

This unique position encompasses a wide range of capabilities starting with polymer chemistry/rheology followed by fiber spinning, curing, pyrolysis and sintering/graphitization. Potential candidates should possess knowledge of fiber winding under tension, multifilament spooling and protective coatings. Direct work with high temperature SiC, SiNC and YAG fibers and ultra high temperature HfC and TaC fibers is offered. Fiber testing, evaluation and process feedback for lean manufacturing from pilot production to full-scale manufacturing is anticipated. Position will report to Director of Fiber Development. A background in PAN and/or Pitch based carbon fibers would be desirable.

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