NCREPT Ribbon Cutting

The National Center for Reliable Electric Power Transmission (NCREPT) recently expanded from 7,000 square feet to 12,000 square feet. The expansion has created an additional 5,000 sq. ft. of testing area and created office space for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and visiting researchers. It also houses a 120 ton chiller and a server/IT room that is dedicated to cyber security research equipment. NCREPT is the highest power electronic test facility on any U.S. university campus and about 50 companies have worked with the center. The expansion allows the center to offer direct current testing as well as alternating current testing allowing for variability and improvement in research and testing capability. Nearly 100 people were in attendance to celebrate the expansion of NCREPT. Among those in attendance were Provost Jim Coleman, UA Chancellor Joseph Steinmetz, and State Senator Jim Hendren. State Senator Hendren stated that the work being done at NCREPT may cost millions up front, but could save the state hundreds of millions in the future. Since it was established, NCREPT has received more than $100 million in external funding. This expansion also offers additional value to the Arkansas Research and Technology Park as a user and test facility for existing and prospective affiliate companies.
Welcome Earth Science Laboratories

The ARTP is pleased to welcome a new affiliate to the Park. Earth Science Laboratories creates innovative water treatment products for both municipal and recreation use. These products include EarthTec®, PristineBlue®, EarthTec® QZ and AlgaeShield®. Pristine Blue is a residential pool and spa system that is effective, affordable, and easy to use. EarthTec improves water quality for both municipal and industrial uses. EarthTec QZ is a solution for the increasing problem of invasive species such as zebra mussels. Earth Science Laboratories recently expanded its Specialty Chemical line with a one-step metal stain remover called MetalShield™. This product removes stains caused by iron, copper and other metals commonly found in pool and spa water. MetalShield removes metal stains without adding phosphates to the water. The ARTP looks forward to working with Earth Science Laboratories at the Park.

BlueInGreen’s Impact on NWA

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) announced the City of Fayetteville as the winner of the Arkansas Environmental Technology (“TECHe”) Award. The award came as a result of the City integrating the HyDOZ Disinfection System, developed by BlueInGreen, which was installed at the wastewater treatment facility and is considered to be the first of its kind. This system installation is recognized by the ADEQ as an effective technology for the City of Fayetteville.

SFC Fluidics Update

SFC Fluidics has received a $100,000 SBIR Matching Grant from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission to fund additional reservoir and pod development for the min-ePump. The min-ePump is being developed under a $1.4 million Phase II SBIR grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse. The min-ePump is an implantable, wirelessly controlled, rapid dosing drug delivery system. This technology allows a decrease in size and will offer people who have diabetes a new level of convenience and discretion to manage the disease.

TCO Welcomes New Hire

The Division of Agriculture Technology Commercialization has welcomed Barri Tulgetske as the new Intellectual Property and Compliance Manager. Her role is to perform intellectual property management while working with faculty inventors, internal and external patent counsel, licensees, maintain the database for the small fruit breeding program, manage incoming/outgoing licenses and assure all new invention disclosures are appropriately chronicled.
Ozark Integrated Circuits presented two papers at HiTEC2018-High Temperature Electronics Conference and participated in the technology exhibition. They highlighted recent work in high-temperature silicon carbide integrated circuits. Ozark IC’s success in the SBIR program was also recently highlighted by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission in a new case study.

In other news, the “Ozark” section of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) was recognized as the best small section in Region 5 of the annual meeting held in Austin in April. This is thanks to their many members in companies at the Park. Matt Francis of Ozark IC was recognized for Outstanding Individual Achievements as Section Chair of the Ozark Section.

Ozark IC has welcomed to their team Evan Glover as a summer intern. Evan is from Farmington, AR and has just completed his third year at the University of Arkansas. He is studying Business Information Systems.

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**TSC: Impacting Major Retailers**

The Sustainability Consortium’s rating system for beauty and personal care products is being adopted by retailers including CVS Health, Sephora, Walgreens, Target, and Walmart. This tool allows retailers to evaluate the sustainability of the products sold and aides retailers in increasing the amount of sustainable products in their stores.

Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc. has joined as a member of TSC. Partnering with TSC, Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc. can work to create more sustainable products and in turn create a more sustainable planet. This partnership will allow TSC’s work to expand rapidly due to the global reach of Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc.

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**WattGlass Receives DuraMAT Award**

WattGlass was awarded a DuraMAT award from the Department of Energy titled “ADVANCED MULTIFUNCTIONAL COATINGS FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) GLASS TO REDUCE SOILING AND POTENTIAL INDUCED DEGRADATION (PID) LOSSES.” This is a 12-month award that allows WattGlass to leverage the capabilities of Sandia National Labs, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLCA) to further characterize the WattGlass coating and to better understand its ability to mitigate the impacts of soiling and degradation.

WattGlass has also hired Hulusi Turgat who graduated from the University of Arkansas with his Ph.D. in microEP. Turgat worked in Houston before returning to Fayetteville to join the WattGlass team.
Wolfspeed, A Cree Company, won the 2018 Compound Semiconductor Industry Award in the category of “Device Design and Packaging” for all our SiC high voltage (3.3 kV to 10kV) power modules (XHV-6 and XHV-7). It’s a combined chip/package award for best new chip design in the best new package.

Wolfspeed received a new contract with the United States Air Force. This new contract is for continued development, transfer, and ramp-up of SiC power modules. This 12-month/$5 million award is an extension of a previous $4.1 million contract for work on the module. The module will be used to process powerflow for electronics. It will convert battery power to the proper current and voltage before the power is sent to the electronic device that it is powering. The SiC power modules can operate at a higher efficiency, higher voltage, higher power densities, and higher temperatures than conventional electronics.

Marcelo Schupbach has rejoined Wolfspeed Fayetteville and is working on power module projects. Marcelo worked for Cree, Inc. in North Carolina as a Power Module R&D Manager. He left to move back to Argentina to spend time with family and has now moved back to Fayetteville with his wife and children.

Andrew Wyers, Kayla Midlam, Josh Pennington, and Morgan Roddy have all joined Wolfspeed as summer interns.