Michigan is home to the largest group of IACMI members, with more than 30 members, contributing to the growing manufacturing workforce in the state. Seventy-five percent of all automotive R&D happens in Michigan, making IACMI members’ presence in the state impactful in the increasingly advanced automotive sector.

Connecting innovation and workforce development at IACMI SURF

Through IACMI projects, member companies have developed new, commercially available products. These products have helped lead to job creation, facility expansion, and economic growth for the companies, as well as their manufacturing partners. IACMI has created an ecosystem of innovation that meets commercial needs, serves national security, and drives national economic growth.

IACMI – The Composites Institute is a 160+ member community of industry, academia, and government agencies leading innovation and workforce development initiatives to drive the adoption of advanced composites to grow U.S. manufacturing and support national security. IACMI, a Manufacturing USA institute, is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Advanced Manufacturing Office, as well as key state and industry partners.

Advanced composites provide strength and stiffness while being very lightweight. These characteristics provide advantages in many transportation, energy, and infrastructure applications. Greater deployment of advanced composites can offer benefits, such as providing safer, more energy-efficient vehicles. IACMI is working to drive the large-scale adoption of advanced composites in diverse markets.

For more information and the latest event schedule, visit iacmi.org.
IACMI – The Composites Institute creates an ecosystem of innovation to drive commercial outcomes that lead to economic growth.

Creating an Innovation Network

8 Current IACMI technical projects with innovations created in Michigan
10 Michigan companies participating on current IACMI technical projects

IACMI and LIFT show how partnership and inclusive ingenuity drive innovation in Detroit. Thank you for showing me your training, prototyping, and education programs that create opportunities for vets, K – 12 students, and Corktown.” - Lt. Governor Gilchrist, Feb, 2019

Forbes

Michigan’s New Governor Can Accelerate the Auto Industry’s Transformation

“The industry is on the cusp of a light-weighting and multi-material revolution. Detroit hosts two public-private partnerships under the Manufacturing USA initiative that could, with the right direction, be the epicenter of many industry lightweight innovations.” – Forbes, Nov. 13, 2018

Establishing an Environment for Innovation

The IACMI SURF is a full-scale, production-relevant facility for innovation in the heart of industry in Detroit, MI. SURF is managed and operated by Michigan State University, and is home to essential manufacturing equipment that allows industry to research, design, and test cost-savings processes and new materials to integrate into their own production lines in a separate space, without interrupting production lines.

**Equipment at SURF**

- Schuler 4,000-ton compression molding cell
- Milacron 3,000-ton injection molding cell
- Litzler prepreg line
- Hennecke high-pressure RTM system
- RocTool rapid heat-cool system
- Plasmatreat
- Compounding line
- Prepreg slitting, chopping, and laminating equipment series
- Industry engagement spaces

Innovations through Michigan-based research

The Dow composite material, developed through a prominent IACMI technical project, achieved part level material performance such that Ford is willing to declare it acceptable for specification on future vehicle platforms.

IACMI members created the first large injection molded automotive prototype made with low-cost textile grade carbon fiber. Textile carbon fiber has an estimated reduced cost of 40 – 50% compared to its traditional 50,000 filament tow commercial counterpart.

Commercially available products developed through IACMI collaborations:

- Dow VORAFUSE™ P6300
- Dow VORAFUSE™ M6400

National composites industry impact:

$400M Investment in eight states

3,000 Jobs announced

Members Meetings hosted in Michigan:

IACMI hosted its Winter 2016 and Winter 2018 Members Meetings in Michigan, bringing more than 300 attendees from across the country to Detroit for each meeting.

Serving Workforce Needs

15 Michigan Internship placements
300+ K – 12 STEM participants in Michigan
460+ Composites training workshop participants in Michigan, in partnership with Composites One and CompositesWorld
2,000+ Visitors to SURF

“One of my projects was to create Standard Operating Procedures (SOP’s) for a Litzler Prepreg Line... at the Summer Members Meeting I got to meet Matt Litzler, the man who designed IACMI SURF’s Litzler Prepreg Line. Thank you, IACMI, for providing me with such tremendous opportunities!” – Eliza Michaud, 2018 IACMI Intern at SURF

Workforce development events in Michigan include:

- Composites technician training workshops, open to the community and free of charge, hosted with Composites One
- Company-specific training workshops
- Compression molding workshops with CompositesWorld
- Manufacturing Day K – 12 STEM events
- Internship hands-on learning opportunities
- Conference presentations
- American Composites Manufacturing Association Tech Day participation

Impacting Economic Development

Michigan Outcomes