

# Advanced Composites Monthly

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## Industry Still Upbeat at Carbon Fibers 2008

**CompositesWorld Conferences** recently held its annual **Carbon Fibers 2008** executive conference in Charleston, SC during December 8-10, 2008. The event, held at the Charleston Marriott Hotel, hosted about 150 attendees to discuss and learn about the carbon fiber industry. This year's program, once again, included a wide array of quality presentations discussing the markets, new technologies and applications, and emerging opportunities for carbon fiber material suppliers and manufacturers. In all, there were two dozen presenters and discussion sessions. In addition, there were two optional pre-conference seminars on the first day of the event.

With regards to the aerospace and defense markets for carbon fiber, this event had much to offer. The two preconference seminars shed much light on the demand for carbon composites in the commercial transport aircraft market in addition to forecasts and projections for the wider aerospace industry. The general session presentations covered a number of other relevant topics including the impact of oil and energy prices on carbon fiber production, new carbon fiber manufacturers; thermoplastic applications, recycling carbon fibers, carbon fiber production and processing equipment, among others.

Due to the quality and breadth of topics at the event, coverage of Carbon Fibers 2008 will be included in both this issue as well as future issues. Included in this issue will be coverage of:

- *"The Outlook for Composites in Commercial Aircraft Structures and Interiors"* seminar by Chris Red.
- *"The Impact of the Rising Price of Oil and China on the Carbon Fiber Market,"* by Dr. David Service.

- *"How Do You Start a (Successful) Carbon Fiber Business?"* by DJ DeLong and Mustafa Yilmaz.
- *"Continuous Fiber Reinforced Thermoplastic Aerospace Applications,"* by Arnt Offringa.

The next issue of the newsletter will continue our coverage of Carbon Fibers 2008 event with additional sessions and presentations including additional discussion of market outlook and demand, recycling CFRP, carbon fiber production equipment, and automated manufacturing systems.

Planning for next year's **Carbon Fiber 2009** conference is already underway. The event is scheduled to be held December 9-11, 2009 at the new Hilton San Diego Bayfront in downtown San Diego. CompositesWorld's Conference Director, Scott Stephenson is beginning to recruit presenters and additional opportunities for participation are available. Following the same general format as previous Carbon Fibers conferences, this event will provide another lively forum to discuss the evolving supply

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