A composite manufacturing technician for ATK Aerospace Structures located in Iuka, Miss., inspects test instrumentation installed on the Composite Crew Module prior to shipment to NASA’s Langley Research Center in Virginia.

ATK manufactured the crew module at its 300,000-square-foot large composite manufacturing facility as part of a NASA lead industry team to develop technology for human-rated composite space habitats.

Just about everything you come in contact with every day has been touched in some way by the manufacturing industry. Food, computers and electronic products, chemicals, motor vehicles, machinery, energy, pharmaceuticals, plastics, aerospace … all are part of manufacturing.

U.S. manufacturers produce 22 percent of the world’s manufactured products and represent the largest manufacturing economy in the world. In fact, if U.S. manufacturing were a country, it would be the eighth largest economy in the world.

The Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME) is the place to prepare for your career in modern manufacturing. The CME combines engineering, business and accounting course work with a unique 12,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art factory floor built right into your classroom. This learning experience gives you the knowledge and hands-on experience you need to be ready to make something of your amazing career.

“This center will be a perfect blend of the academic and real-world focus so essential today for success in the multifaceted global manufacturing sector. Our expectation is that students who complete this intensive program will become industry leaders in every phase of many different businesses.”

Mississippi Governor
Haley Barbour
Fred Carl, founder and CEO of Viking Range Corporation, in the Viking Training Center located in Greenwood, Miss. Carl founded Viking in 1984 and began the process of developing the first commercial-type range for the home.

Since that date, the Viking line of consumer products has grown to include ventilation hoods, built-in refrigerators, built-in ovens, warming drawers, dishwashers, trash compactors, refrigerators, freezers, wine cellars, an entire line of outdoor products and stainless steel cabinetry, cookware, cutlery and countertop electronics. Viking also produces commercial foodservice equipment for restaurant and commercial kitchen applications.

The current square footage of all Viking production and distribution facilities in Greenwood is more than 600,000 square feet.
Be ahead of the wave.

The world is changing fast, and technology is advancing even faster. Five years from now, you will be working with products and processes that do not exist today. If the idea of being the one who designs, develops and manufactures these new products and processes is exciting to you, then the Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME) is the place to be.

The CME will prepare you to recognize and seize opportunities. Its unique interdisciplinary approach combines the technical knowledge you need to create new products with the business and accountancy skills needed to market the products and run the business.

The CME will immerse you in the concept and philosophy of modern manufacturing and prepare your mind for a higher level of thinking. The kind of thinking you need to make waves in the world.
The USCGC Bertholf (WMSL 750) sails through the Gulf of Mexico during the ship’s sea trials prior to delivery to the U.S. Coast Guard. The ship was built at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss. It is the most technologically advanced ship in U.S. Coast Guard history.

The ship is 418 feet long with a 54-foot beam. It displaces 4,300 tons with a full load and has a twin-screw combined diesel and gas turbine engine capable of pushing the ship up to 28 knots. The ship has been designed to satisfy the Coast Guard’s multi-mission responsibilities in homeland security, national defense, marine safety and environmental protection.
Start something.

Consider the big picture. The U.S. manufacturing industry produces $1.6 trillion of value every year or 11.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product. This is a huge industry with lots of opportunity.

Consider your career goals. U.S. manufacturing is made up of mostly small- and medium-sized firms. This is an industry that embraces entrepreneurship, meaning business ownership for those willing to learn, take risk and put in the effort. That could be you.

Consider your personal earning potential. In 2008, the average U.S. manufacturing employee earned $71,623 annually, including pay and benefits. The average non-manufacturing worker earned $57,064 annually.

At the Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME), you will work in co-ops and internships as you learn how to develop, design and manufacture products and learn the business and accountancy skills needed to create and run your own business.

You will leave the CME having mastered both the art and science of modern manufacturing. You will be prepared to take on a leadership role in this industry, to recognize opportunities for innovation and to make money for you, your family and your business.

“Individuals who choose a manufacturing career today will have a direct impact on our country’s economic and national security as we compete in an ever-changing global marketplace. With the quality and value of manufacturing jobs today, these individuals will also be ensuring financial security for themselves and their families.”

Emily Stover DeRocco, President, The Manufacturing Institute
To prepare students to be leaders in the manufacturing industry, CME’s unique program includes coursework in accountancy and business, as well as engineering.

CME students attend courses led by outstanding professors such as Dr. Annette Pridgen, a CPA and an expert in governmental accounting. Dr. Pridgen is the recipient of several prestigious awards including the Doctoral Teaching Award from the Patterson School of Accountancy at Ole Miss.

Led and instructed by an outstanding faculty, CME graduates leave the program with the skills needed to successfully manage the finances associated with their businesses.
Change lives.

Manufacturers are innovators, inventors and entrepreneurs who dream of things to make the world a better place and then make them happen. U.S. manufacturers perform nearly half of all research and development in the country. The results of these efforts are products that improve the quality of our lives, offered at a price we can afford.

The unique cross-disciplinary program of the Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME) combines theory, academics and hands-on experience to teach you how to drive the research and development that result in innovation.

If you dream of changing the world, join the CME and make magic.

“We must go beyond thinking outside the box; we must realize that there is no box.”

Markeeva Morgan, (BSEE 01), The University of Mississippi; (MS 06), Catholic University, Washington, D.C.
Manager, Advanced Defense Technology Cluster, Von Braun Center for Science and Innovation, NASA / Marshall Space Flight Center
Inspire. Achieve.

A paycheck is a good thing. A career that changes the world is an amazing thing. If you are looking for a career that is more than a job, challenges you every day and enables you to be a part of the solution, then manufacturing is for you.

Manufacturers will be the ones who discover and develop solutions to the grand challenges facing our society. Using the latest technology, such as lasers, micro-machining and nanotechnology, manufacturers will invent and produce the medical devices and pharmaceuticals that save lives, energy and environmental technologies that preserve Earth, and aerospace technology that explores outer space.

The Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME) is a unique educational opportunity designed to transform you into a contributing professional in the modern manufacturing industry. The CME advisory board is composed of organizations and individuals who are industry leaders. The board provides guidance regarding the academic program, internships and career placement.

The CME academic program is reviewed and revised regularly by manufacturing experts to ensure that your education is current and that you leave the CME prepared to be competitive and successful in your career.

If you are ready to make something of yourself, we invite you to apply.

“My career in manufacturing has been tremendously rewarding. Every day is different, fast-paced and filled with opportunities for innovation and creativity. I leave work every day knowing what I have accomplished and looking forward to what the next day will bring. I feel the modern manufacturing industry is where the action is.”

Jeanne Edwards,
Plant Manager, GE Aviation
Jeanne Edwards, plant manager at GE Aviation in Batesville, Miss., holds a composite fan platform. The platform is installed between the fan blades of the engine and is a key component of the fan system of GE Aviation's new GEnx jet engine as it reduces weight and saves fuel.

The Batesville plant will manufacture 18 lightweight carbon fiber fan platforms per GEnx engine. Composite fan platforms are ultra durable and a fraction of the weight of conventional metals. GE Aviation invests $1 billion annually in jet propulsion R&D programs. This long tradition of commitment to new technology has helped GE maintain its leadership position within the industry with a proud list of "firsts" in both military and commercial jet propulsion, tracing back to 1942 with America's first jet engine.
Be a Rebel.

The Center for Manufacturing Excellence at The University of Mississippi is housed within a state-of-the-art academic facility located in the heart of the Ole Miss campus. The facility is more than 47,000 usable square feet and includes classrooms, student workspaces, lounge areas, laboratories and a factory floor, all designed to provide the optimum learning experience.

Each area includes the utmost in educational tools built right into the academic experience. The 12,000-square-foot factory floor occupies the lower level. Here, students learn the modern processes of manufacturing as they bring their ideas to life.

Founded in 1848, The University of Mississippi is a public, comprehensive research institution that offers what many have called the ideal educational experience. With around 16,000 students on the Oxford campus (more than 18,000 including our Medical Center in Jackson and campuses in Tupelo and Southaven), the university is a place that brings together the best of what a public university can offer while still providing the qualities that are most often found at expensive private colleges.

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www.olemiss.edu/cme
What is our logo?
What do you see? Look at it again while you think about this:

The manufacturing process begins and ends with the human mind and spirit.

This simple belief is the foundation of the CME program. Our logo is our interpretation of this belief. The symbol begins with the human with arms open and extended upward and moves on to the manufacturing process, yet always returns to the human element.

If you don’t see that… don’t worry. Let us spend some time with you and open your mind to the amazing opportunities available to you in manufacturing.

Then you can look at it again.
The Center for Manufacturing Excellence expresses its gratitude to the following organizations for their assistance in developing this brochure:

ATK
The Manufacturing Institute
GE Aviation
Northrop Grumman
Viking

For more information on The University of Mississippi Center for Manufacturing Excellence, scan this QR code, which instantly directs the browser on your smart phone to the CME website. Download the QR code reader for your smart phone at reader.kaywa.com.