



Testimony of Sandvik Coromant before Commerce Committee

March 6, 2014

Regarding

Raised Bill No. 5271 - An Act Concerning Funding for the Advanced Manufacturing of Composite Materials

In Connecticut

My name is Sean Holt and I am the Aerospace Manager - Market Area Americas for Sandvik Coromant, a leader in the cutting tool industry supplying tooling solutions and services for manufacturers within the machining industry. I am writing to support Raised Bill 5271 (An Act Concerning Funding for the Advanced Manufacturing of Composite Materials in Connecticut), specifically to emphasize the increasing importance of composite materials in manufacturing and to support the efforts that the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc. (CCAT) plans to ensure Connecticut is in a leadership position in this emerging manufacturing technology.

Thank you for allowing Sandvik Coromant the opportunity to express a few words today in support of Raised Bill No 5271. Sandvik Coromant is the leader in the cutting tool industry supplying tooling solutions and services for manufacturers within the machining industry.

At Sandvik Coromant we recognize that change is inevitable and that it is vital to stay ahead of our changing environment in order to survive. With this, Sandvik Coromant does not just offer tooling solutions for the metal working industry but for machining composites as well. Sandvik Coromant is rapidly expanding its standard product portfolio with products specifically engineered for machining composites. Recently, Sandvik Coromant acquired the remaining shares of the leading supplier round tools specifically engineered for composites machining, Precorp, and those products and expertise is now under the Sandvik Coromant umbrella. In the aerospace industry segment, what was once

dominated by metallic components is now being replaced by lighter and stronger composite materials. Take for example the Boeing 787 Dreamliner; an aircraft in operation today has a structure that is comprised of 50% composite materials. Or the Airbus A350 XWB, an aircraft in production stages is comprised of 52% composite materials. Even aircraft engine manufacturers are finding applications where a heat resistant composite system is a viable alternative to heat resistant super alloys. Outside of the aircraft industry, we find BMW introducing their new i3 model which has a body structure that is completely comprised of CFRP (carbon fiber reinforced polymers). Overall, there is a positive trend in the composite industry segment and Sandvik Coromant is leading the way in providing machining solutions for the composite industry segment.

Should CCAT acquire funding for a composite machining cell in East Hartford, CT; Sandvik Coromant is committed to supporting CCAT with expert industry knowledge and resources through its Aerospace Application Competence Center. This would include onsite technical assistance and tooling support. This support will be a continuation of the already successful collaboration between the two companies with regards to metalworking projects currently being worked on together.

Thank you for allowing Sandvik Coromant the opportunity to say a few words in support of this legislation.

Sean Holt

Sandvik Coromant

Aerospace Manager MAA

Signed

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