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SPACE COMMERCE CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION

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Space-Age Advanced Manufacturing Solutions Capture the Spotlight

SpaceCom 2016 to Explore Use of Space Assets, Technologies to Address Advanced Manufacturing Challenges on Earth

HOUSTON – Space and advanced manufacturing industry leaders will explore new ways to accelerate production cycles, solve significant maintenance issues and create operational efficiencies using affordable access to space-based assets at the annual [SpaceCom \(Space Commerce Conference and Expo\)](#). The largest commercial space conference in the world, SpaceCom 2016 will be held Nov. 15-17 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

“Working together to leverage cutting-edge, space-based assets, we can develop game-changing applications to address critical advanced manufacturing issues here on Earth,” said James Causey, executive director of SpaceCom. “Our unique approach at SpaceCom allows attendees to do much more than listen to speakers behind a podium. They get to discuss real-world problems and collaborate on next-generation solutions. By cross-pollinating knowledge and assets, we can devise applications never before imagined.”

From remote operations to robotics and specialized materials, technologies developed for space are already making a dynamic impact on many areas of production, manufacturing and new material creation and testing. SpaceCom will showcase these cross-over technologies and demonstrate existing applications that can be used to improve profits, create new product lines and gain market share.

“Depending on the industry, a technology in one sector could be deemed ‘advanced,’ but ‘unobtainable or average’ in another,” said Tim Shinbara, vice president of Manufacturing Technology for the Association for Manufacturing Technology. “At SpaceCom, participants get to survey the latest and greatest space innovations, while taking advantage of critical roundtable discussions that help clarify potential applications. It’s an inside look that is second to none. Attendance is beyond beneficial for any advanced manufacturing professional.”

SpaceCom comes alive via five specific Applications Workshops, which is where the vital cross-industry collaborations take place. At the 2016 event, advanced manufacturing professionals will benefit from workshops such as *Materials: Reshaping Our World*, where industry leaders will examine advanced fabrication techniques such as additive manufacturing and 3-D printing, which allow industry and consumers to produce just-in-time items, when needed.

Other Applications Workshops at SpaceCom 2016 include *Our Oceans: The Vital Resource*; *Climate: Affecting Every Business*; *Natural Resources: Effective Husbandry*; and *Remote Medicine: Quality Care Anywhere and Everywhere*.

SpaceCom 2016 will also feature and examine space-derived technologies currently at work in the advanced manufacturing industry, including:

- 3D printing for advanced rocket engines and components
- On-orbit, 3D printing for maintenance support and spacecraft
- NASA advanced project management procedures for integrity of complex projects

- Composite materials for improved strength and reduced weight for spacecraft
- Woven composite materials for improved strength and reduced weight for spacecraft
- Robotics, autonomous systems and artificial intelligence to ensure precision manufacture and intelligent flexibility in operations

The three-day event will also feature conference sessions with advanced manufacturing experts from companies such as EOS of North America, the Association for Manufacturing Technology, Made in Space and NASA. In addition, there will be numerous opportunities for cutting-edge entrepreneurs, business leaders and investors to do business and forge partnerships to gain competitive advantage. A full conference program is available [here](#).

[Registration](#) for this year's event is currently open, and attendees who sign up before Sept. 9 can take advantage of a \$200 savings. [Sponsorships and exhibit booth space](#) are also still available. For more information, visit www.spacecomexpo.com.

About SpaceCom

[SpaceCom](#) (the Space Commerce Conference and Exposition) focuses on the application of space technologies to fuel business innovation across the advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, energy, maritime and medical industries. The event is produced in collaboration with [NASA Johnson Space Center](#), [Center for the Advancement of Science in Space \(CASIS\)](#), [Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau \(GHCVB\)](#), [Houston First Corporation](#) and [National Trade Productions](#). For more information, visit www.spacecomexpo.com.

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