

Source: Jeff Tucker, 785-532-3421, [jwtuck@k-state.edu](mailto:jwtuck@k-state.edu)

Website: <http://www.k-state.edu/tdi>

Written by: Bret Lanz, 785-532-7473, [blanz@k-state.edu](mailto:blanz@k-state.edu)

Friday, February 1, 2018

### **K-State's Advanced Manufacturing Institute Announces New Role, Focus and Name**

MANHATTAN - The Carl R. Ice College of Engineering's Advanced Manufacturing Institute (AMI) is transitioning to the K-State Technology Development Institute (TDI) to more accurately reflect the institute's broadening activity focus in developing, protecting and launching new technologies. This new organizational direction is designed to help expand and promote its services to a range of partners including industry, entrepreneurs, university researchers and the community.

Founded in 1985 as a Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation Center of Excellence, AMI originally focused on research of advanced manufacturing processes and providing technical assistance to manufacturers across Kansas. Over time AMI's mission has expanded to facilitate the creation of new products and technologies anywhere in the world and provide assistance to ensure these innovations are successfully commercialized. Since 1995, AMI has executed over 2,700 projects, assisted more than 650 Kansas companies and organizations, and employed/trained over 600 K-State engineering and business student interns.

As TDI, the institute will continue to expand its efforts to improve the economic competitiveness of Kansas companies, communities, and K-State students. This vision will be achieved through continuing the efforts to evaluate potential opportunities, provide engineering, prototyping and testing support and assisting local communities to support innovation and growth efforts. "This transformation is the next evolution of strategic engagement in the state's innovation-based economy and beyond," said Jeff Tucker, TDI Executive Director.

TDI recently secured a five-year grant through the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) University Center program and the Kansas Department of Commerce to assist in this transition process. "Through this federal and state partnership, TDI will not only continue to serve manufacturers of the Midwest, but over time will expand its innovation services to a broader array of technology companies and build deeper development collaborations with industry partners, university researchers and communities alike", Tucker said.

The Technology Development Institute provides a broad range of engineering and business development services to both private industry and university researchers to advance the commercial readiness of new products or technologies. Additional information can be found at [k-state.edu/tdi](http://k-state.edu/tdi).