In May 2014, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) awarded a planning grant for creating the Consortium for Accelerated Innovation and Insertion of Advanced Composites (CAIIAC) to:

- Create a executable roadmap for the next 10 years, and stand up a consortium to implement the roadmap for the creation of a domestic, innovative manufacturing ecosystem to accelerate innovation and industry adoption of advanced composite products; and
- Commit to significantly shortening composite development cycles and providing “right-the-first-time material yields” that result from advanced technologies coupled with an improved understanding of business environments.

CAIIAC will develop a differentiating and sustainable consortium to add unique value to its members.

The Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute (GTMI), in collaboration with Advanced Materials Professional Services, Florida State University, and the University of Dayton, is facilitating the creation of the Consortium. Already, 39 companies and government laboratories representing the aerospace, automotive, energy, and medical device sectors have expressed interest in participating in CAIIAC. More than 60 percent of these partners are small- or medium-sized enterprises that play a critical role in the U.S. supplier network. Starting with an industry-led roadmapping process, the new consortium aims to:

- Accelerate innovation and deployment of advanced composites.
- Develop broad-based applications for advanced composites.
- Improve U.S. competitiveness and sell advanced composite products globally.

If you are interested in collaborating or need more information, contact GTMI Executive Director Dr. Ben Wang at 404-385-2068 or ben.wang@gatech.edu.