

**Alcoa to Acquire TITAL, Expand in Aerospace**

Alcoa, New York, plans to further expand its global aerospace business through a definitive agreement to acquire privately held TITAL, Bestwig, Germany. The acquisition will strengthen Alcoa's global position to capture increasing demand for advanced jet engine components made of titanium.

TITAL produces titanium and aluminum structural castings for aircraft engines and airframes. Lightweight titanium can withstand extreme high heat and pressure, providing energy efficiency and performance. These engines are used on large commercial aircraft.

TITAL employs more than 650 people, primarily in Bestwig, Germany.

Alcoa projects a compounded annual commercial jet growth rate of

7% through 2019 and sees a current nine-year production order book at 2013 delivery rates. Almost 70% of TITAL's revenues are expected to come from commercial aerospace in 2019. In 2013, the company generated revenues of approximately \$96 million, more than half of which came from titanium products.

The acquisition will establish titanium casting capabilities in Europe for Alcoa while expanding its aluminum casting capacity. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2015.

Alcoa operates several casting facilities in North America under the Alcoa-Howmet brand in Ontario and Quebec, Canada, New Jersey, Virginia, Indiana, Michigan and Texas. ■

**Fiat Chrysler Invests \$266M in Kokomo Plant**

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) U.S. has officially confirmed a \$266 million investment in the Kokomo Transmission Plant in Indiana. This is the sixth time that FCA has invested in its Kokomo Transmission Plant since June of 2009. Those six investments together total nearly \$1.8 billion. This most recent investment in the Kokomo plant is to increase capacity of the TorqueFlite eight-speed automatic transmission.

Fiat also operates diecasting plant Kokomo Casting, in Kokomo.

In 2013, Kokomo put out about 300,000 eight-speeds. Compare that to the first 11 months of 2014, when the plant has more than doubled its output of the eight-speed, at almost 700,000. TorqueFlite transmissions are available on the Chrysler 300; the Dodge Challenger, Charger, and Durango; the Jeep Grand Cherokee; and the Ram 1500. ■

**Magellan Aerospace Signs with Pratt & Whitney**

Magellan Aerospace, Toronto, has signed a 10-year agreement with Pratt & Whitney Canada (P&WC), a United Technologies Company, for the supply of complex magnesium and aluminum castings.

The castings reportedly will be produced primarily by Magellan's Haley, Ontario division, with several being produced at its Glendale, Ariz., plant.

The agreement is expected to represent approximately \$209 million U.S. in revenue for Magellan through 2023.

In addition to the legacy casting programs for P&WC's current engine platforms, the agreement includes the production of castings for Pratt & Whitney's PurePower engine family, which encompasses the Airbus A320 neo, Mitsubishi Regional Jet, and Bombardier CSeries programs.

"This 10-year agreement demon-

strates P&WC's confidence in Magellan's ability to produce some of the most complex sand cast geometries in the industry," said Phillip Underwood, president and CEO, Magellan. "Magellan has invested and will continue to invest in innovative new technologies such as robotics and 3D sand printing to meet its commitment to achieve the highest standard of product and performance."

"The solid working relationship we have developed with Magellan over the past 50 years will continue to benefit both companies for many years to come," said Irene Makris, vice president, Supply, Management, Pratt & Whitney Canada. "These are highly complex engine components and we're confident that Magellan can consistently meet our demanding technical and quality specifications." ■

**Centre de Métallurgie du Québec Expands**

The Centre de Métallurgie du Québec, Québec, Canada has added 9,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space to its research and development casting facility. This will allow it to add additive manufacturing, plasma spray and HVOF coating, vacuum heat treating and HIPing capabilities to the range of molding processes already operational at CMQ; they include nobake sand and investment casting, low pressure and cold chamber pressure die casting, with the adjunct industrial melting capacity for magnesium, aluminum, copper, ferrous, nickel, titanium and zirconium alloys.

The Centre de Métallurgie du Québec, an annex to Collège de Trois-Rivières, provides technical counseling and technology transfer to the metallurgical industry at large. ■

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