

# CM Pulling Strings

by Rebecca D'Amico

## Custom Composite Technologies: A Reputation For Doing It Right

**CM: What is the nature of our business?**

**SH:** Custom Composite Technologies specializes in custom fabrication of parts and tooling using advanced composite materials and methods.

**CM: How many employees do you have?**

**SH:** We currently employ seven full-time people.

**CM: What is your company's background?**

**SH:** I have been in the composite industry for over 20 years. I began at Goetz Custom Boats in Bristol, Rhode Island, where I advanced to project manager. I was assigned to many of the out-of-the-ordinary projects which I managed successfully to difficult tolerances. Seeing a niche in the boatbuilding industry for custom parts and tooling, I started the business in 1999. My crew includes my Project Manager, Pat Sanborn, who has 12 years composite boatbuilding experience.

**CM: How has it evolved from its beginnings?**

**SH:** CCTI started with one project, the rooftop for the 102' Ray Hunt Design, Starlight, in 1999. In an old, cold warehouse, projects like rowing shell molds started to come through the door. When I decided to move my business to the City of Bath and build his custom, 7500 square foot building, I was building tooling for Sea Ray Boats, Knoxville, Tennessee, a carbon fiber housing for the LRAD for American Technology Corporation out of San Diego, CA, and parts for the Scheherazade, a 155' Hodgdon Yachts built vessel.

**CM: How did you get started in the industry?**

**SH:** Patrick and I began our training at Goetz Custom Boats in Bristol, RI, building America's Cup boats and many advanced composite projects.



Steve Hassett, President  
Custom Composite  
Technologies

15 Wing Farm Parkway  
Bath, ME 04530  
T: 207-442-7007  
F: 207-442-7050

[www.customcomposite.com](http://www.customcomposite.com)

**CM: What obstacles does your company face today in the regulatory or technical arenas?**

**SH:** Our business faces the same obstacles as others: spending the time staying in compliance with all OSHA and EPA regulations while focusing our energies on delivering an exceptional product, on-time. Our employees are the background of our company so we do everything we can to help them stay safe as well

as help them initiate safety with chemicals, proper PPE, and awareness.

**CM: What are your marketing efforts?**

**SH:** The majority of our business has been and continues to be referral. In the composites industry, it is critical to know that who you choose to build your one-off components, tooling, or prototypes is capable of doing the job right, the first time, and to get it done on budget and on time. That is what we do. We have the knowledge, the experience to do it right the first time. We also use a website to show our projects and use as a brochure. The press release was our first.

**CM: What development or research would you like to see happen to improve the industry?**

**SH:** We would like to see a development in education in the composites industry. We are behind the efforts to push composite education in the State of Maine.

**CM: Where do you see your business in five years?**

**SH:** In five years, we see our business producing more complex, larger one-off components and reaching a broader market. **CM**

*Rebecca D'Amico is CM magazine's production & marketing coordinator: 703.525.0511; rdamico@acmanet.org.*

## Advertiser Review

SAY YOU SAW IT IN COMPOSITES MANUFACTURING MAGAZINE

Advertiser	Page#	Advertiser	Page#	Advertiser	Page#
A&P Technology	65	Flow International	37	NCC	34
Airtech International	61	Frees, Inc.	25	Net Composites	26
AKZO NOBEL	5	Gougeon Brothers, Inc.	12	Nida Core	11, 13, 15
Alcan Baltek	3	GS Manufacturing	16	Plascore	61
Ashland Distribution	Back Cover	Henkel Loctite	31	Propex Fabrics, Inc.	24
Ashland Specialty Chemical	27	HK Research	45	Reed City Tool & Die	55
Axel Plastics Research Labs	9	Huber Engineered Materials	17	Reed Exhibitions	63
BYK Chemie USA	53	ITW Plexus	7	RS Technologies	15
Catalyst Systems	34	ITW Spraycore	35	Safas Corporation	57
CMR	36	Magnum Venus Products	Inside Front Cover	Signature Control Systems	Insert
Composites One	23	Mahogany Company	43	The RJ Marshall Company	35
Composites News	66	McGee Industries Inc.	59	Ventilation Solutions	Inside back cover
Elliott Company of Indianapolis	14	McLean Anderson	65	Via Mare	44
Fibre Glast	67				