



news release

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Composites One Demonstration Proves Boat Builders Believe in LRTM **One of the Largest Live Closed Mold Demonstrations Ever Held at IBEX**

Arlington Heights, IL, October 26, 2005...Over 300 boat builders watched as Composites One built a 16-foot sailboat using Closed Mold Technologies at IBEX 2005 in Miami this past October. Composites One's team of technical experts used the Light Resin Transfer Molding (LRTM) process to build the hulls and decks for a 16-foot sailboat. A random drawing after the demonstration resulted in Jim Huddleston, Plant Manager at Dynasty Boats, Inc., Vinemont, AL, winning a fully-rigged, 16-foot sailboat built entirely through the Closed Mold process.

This was the first time that an entire boat was built using the LRTM process before a live audience at IBEX. "Our intent was show marine manufacturers that closed mold processes like Light RTM can only be used to make large parts, as well as small parts," said Composites One President and Chief Operating Officer Leon Garoufalis. "We achieved that and more. Boat builders attending the demonstration saw how to use this process for making large-scale parts such as boat hulls and decks, in less time, with less waste and fewer emissions than by using traditional open mold processes," he added.

The daily closed mold presentations provided a unique learning experience for boat builders. In addition to viewing a live demonstration, they were able to hear industry experts answer questions, explain the process and discuss the equipment and materials involved. They were also able to see a finished, fully-rigged 16-foot sailboat that was built using the same Light RTM process. "Marine manufacturers who had any doubts about building large parts with Light RTM now understand it can be accomplished," said Garoufalis.

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The Composites One Light RTM demonstration was a joint effort with major suppliers, industry experts and organizations, including Alcan Baltek, Arkema, Cook Composites & Polymers, Chemtrend, Chomarat, Glascraft, Owens Corning, ITW Plexus, Progress Plastics, RTM North, and Vectorply. *Composites Manufacturing* magazine, published by the American Composites Manufacturers Association, was the official media sponsor of the event. “Without the support of our suppliers and sponsors, a live demonstration of this magnitude at IBEX would have been very difficult to accomplish,” added Garoufalis. “They believed in the project right from the start.”

Composites One also hosted daily Vacuum Infusion Process (VIP) demonstrations presented by Andre Cocquyt, President of GRP Guru and an industry expert on VIP, providing boat builders with even more information on Closed Mold Technologies. Marine manufacturers saw Composites One and Andre Cocquyt build a skiff hull using vacuum infusion.

Composites One is the nation's leading distributor of composite materials serving customers from 32 stocking locations in North America. Composites One offers composites fabricators and molders thousands of products from over 200 of the industry's top suppliers through a technical sales and customer service force that is the most knowledgeable in the industry. The company offers a variety of value added services that include closed mold technologies, technical applications reviews, and unmatched regulatory compliance assistance.

Composites One is headquartered in Arlington Heights, IL. To find more information visit www.compositesone.com or call 800-621-8003.

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Editor Please Note: Please see the attached electronic images of the Composites One Light RTM Demo held at IBEX showcasing the Light RTM Process.