



COMPOSITES ONE®

## news release

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### Closed Mold Alliance Formed to Serve Industry *Composites One, Magnum Venus Plastech, RTM North and FormaShape to bring closed molding turnkey solution to industry*

**Arlington Heights, IL, October 15, 2008**...Composites One announced today that it has worked with several industry leaders to form the Closed Mold Alliance which will serve the composites industry by providing composites manufacturers a complete closed mold solution including introduction and education, quality tooling, materials, equipment, and implementation consultation and assistance. This achievement marks an unprecedented turning point within the industry and will impact the future development of closed mold applications as more and more companies make the decision to convert to this more economical and environmentally-friendly manufacturing process.

The Alliance is comprised of four industry leaders: Composites One, providing raw materials and products from over 400 industry suppliers; Magnum Venus Plastech (MVP), the industry's leading meter/mix equipment manufacturer with specific expertise in closed mold processes; RTM North, North America's leading Light RTM tooling expert; and FormaShape, a division of Whitewater Composites, a showcase RTM volume production facility and light RTM tooling manufacturer who is an industry leader in both closed mold tooling and closed mold FRP production.

The Alliance will initially offer manufacturers closed mold education and expert consultation. Customized tooling can then be engineered and produced and used with project specific materials and equipment along with in-house start-up assistance and training. A series of closed mold-related educational programs are being developed into *Closed Mold University* which will provide practical, hands-on learning. The American Composites Manufacturers Association (ACMA) is developing a Closed Mold Certification program and it is

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intended that the two programs will complement each other and together afford the best and most thorough education in the industry today.

“Composites One has been a leader in closed mold technologies for several years. By creating the Alliance, we can offer composites manufacturers the complete package of training, tooling, materials and equipment to meet the needs created by technological developments and environmental concerns,” said Leon Garoufalis, President & COO of Composites One. “We are very pleased to come together with MVP, RTM North and FormaShape. With our combined expertise, we will be able to provide the industry an effective road map to closed mold success.”

“Magnum Venus Plastech is excited to be a part of the Alliance because we can now offer closed mold manufacturers a total solution,” said Jeff Austad, Vice President of Sales & Distribution. “We are certain that this association of leading companies will help move closed molding to the forefront of the industry providing new opportunities to manufacturers in North America.”

“While closed mold processes have been available to manufacturers for many years, companies like Composites One, MVP and RTM North have helped build the reputations of these processes as ones that are both economical and more environmentally efficient than open molding,” said Peter Jeffrey, FormaShape President. “That is why we converted to closed mold several years ago and have become the leading volume closed mold production company in North America with our own design, R&D, and mold shop capabilities. Now, as part of the Alliance, we will be able to offer other companies complete closed mold technology and support.”

Further adding to the Alliance will be RTM North. Known for many years as the experts in Light RTM tooling and education, they have been aligned with Composites One over time and have been integral in creating interest in closed mold within the industry.

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"I am proud of my relationship with Composites One and what we have already accomplished. The creation of this Alliance will substantially increase the number of closed mold success stories within our industry," said Doug Smith, President of RTM North.

Composites One is the nation's leading distributor of composite materials serving customers from 34 locations in North America. Composites One offers composites fabricators and molders thousands of products from over 400 of the industry's top suppliers, many of them offering closed mold options, 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. For more information about the Closed Mold Alliance, please contact Composites One directly, visit Closed Mold U at [compositesone.com](http://compositesone.com) or contact one of the Alliance partners.

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