



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Marshall University's RCBI Partners with Aurora Flight Sciences of WV on Expansion

Marshall University's Robert C. Byrd Institute and Aurora Flight Sciences of WV, an independent subsidiary of Boeing, have entered into an agreement in which Aurora will use a portion of RCBI's Bridgeport facility located at 2400 East Benedum Industrial Drive.

Aurora will use the additional space to enhance their assembly and integration of composite and metallic products for unmanned aircraft. The company expects to begin operations inside RCBI in early Spring 2019.

"RCBI is pleased to help facilitate Aurora's expansion and addition of high tech jobs to the area by providing space in our facility," said Charlotte Weber, Director and CEO of RCBI. "We have proudly worked with Aurora since both facilities opened, and are excited about moving forward together." Weber added, "I want to also stress that RCBI remains committed to North Central WV and will continue to offer our state of the art manufacturing services to all manufacturers."

"Under Boeing, Aurora is growing rapidly and hiring skilled engineers and composite technicians," said John Langford, president and CEO of Aurora Flight Sciences. "We are so appreciative of Charlotte Weber and RCBI for their continued help and support. Leasing us temporary space gives us time to meet our customer's requirements while we develop and execute a long-term facility expansion plan."

Marshall University President Jerome Gilbert said, "At Marshall, we are proud that RCBI is taking the initiative to help expand the aerospace industry in the state of West Virginia. We look forward to new jobs and a growing industrial base in the state."

"The Mid Atlantic Aerospace Complex and North Central WV Airport team are proud that our partners in aerospace are expanding," added Tracy Miller, President of the Mid Atlantic Aerospace Complex.

"A larger team supporting the growing efforts of Aurora Flight Sciences, is a win for this diverse and growing industry sector in WV."

Accredited by the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS), RCBI's advanced training programs offer specialized, hands-on manual and CNC machinist training in partnership with Pierpont Community & Technical College. In addition, RCBI houses a stable of advanced manufacturing equipment available for lease to regional businesses.

"Think of RCBI as an extension to your business, rent time on our equipment, receive the training needed to operate the equipment, receive first class design assistance – all under one roof," said Arley Carpenter, Director of Manufacturing Services at RCBI.

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RCBI delivers expertise and innovative solutions with leading-edge technology to advance manufacturing and entrepreneurship.