

Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM)

CCAM is an applied research center, established in May 2010, focusing on advanced manufacturing applications in surface engineering and manufacturing systems. This new Center's research will support an array of technology sectors, including Advanced Manufacturing, Aerospace, Energy, National Security, and Transportation.

CCAM is constructing a state-of-the-art ~60,000 square foot research facility in Prince George County, Virginia, on the Rolls Royce Crosspointe campus; the facility is expected to be operational in August 2012. CCAM bridges the gap between fundamental research typically performed at universities and the manufacturing capability readiness level required by companies to accelerate new advanced technologies to the factory floor. Structured as a non-profit membership-based institute, CCAM is primarily an industry-directed translation research organization – it helps move fundamental university research to the factory floor. It also brings large industrial firms and their supply chains together to foster collaborative research and structure, thereby leveraging investments and lowering research costs. The members represent advanced technology sectors present in Virginia: Aerospace, Shipbuilding, Defense, and Advanced Manufacturing among them. The University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, and Virginia State University are also founding members. CCAM's workforce development efforts support the Advanced Manufacturing sector.

CCAM will perform both directed research and generic research in its two core focus areas – manufacturing systems and surface engineering, where both research agendas are member-directed; organizing Industry and Tier 1 Members split their investments in CCAM between directed and generic projects. For directed projects, the sponsoring member company specifies and funds the research projects. Generic research investments, from all three tiers of membership, are aggregated to fund a generic research agenda jointly developed by scientific experts from each CCAM Member Company and academic institution. Information on CCAM's intellectual property (IP) policy for directed and generic research can be found in the [IP Policy section](#).

Over the next five years, CCAM anticipates creating more than 60 new jobs as membership and funding increase. Aligning with the Commonwealth's push for job creation, CCAM expects to spur job growth in the state through its workforce development programs and by attracting new members that may be candidates for future manufacturing investments.