Morgan national runner-up for investing in skills at the 2014 EEF future manufacturing awards

Morgan sets up AED 50 million facility in Kizad

Composite pod developed by Morgan helps Mick hit the top 10 at Sochi

Investment increases production of SMART sensors

Morgan develops armoured composite crew compartment for Tata Motors’ a Light Armoured Multipurpose Vehicle
Morgan offer carbon brushes for wind turbines to lower maintenance costs and improve generator reliability

Morgan Advanced Materials Electrical Carbon business announces that its range of carbon brushes are ideal for wind turbine applications, with new designs and materials that are resulting in longer brush life and increased generator uptime.

Morgan’s globally available brush grades are created to be environment-specific, offering maximized performance in low or high load conditions. Leading-edge laboratory equipment, coupled with years of experience in carbon brush technology, has led Morgan to develop advanced materials to address the environmental extremes experienced by wind turbines, including scorching heat or corrosive sea salt. The brushes are also engineered to deliver high performance in low-humidity atmospheres, a common environmental factor affecting many wind farms.

The field-tested carbon brushes are backed by unmatched application engineering, customer service and global reach to support demanding environments. They offer exceptional performance, and feature low friction due to their superior film formation. In addition to being able to endure extreme performance, and feature low friction due to their superior film formation. In addition to being able to endure extreme atmospheric conditions, Morgan’s range of carbon brushes are tolerant to contamination and provide an excellent lifespan with minimal slip ring wear and a low brush to brush wear differential. Despite their relatively small size, carbon brushes and related assemblies are a critical component in a generator’s overall efficiency and output. Morgan’s carbon brushes are ideal for wind turbine generators that are subjected to extremely harsh environments, along with other challenges, including sudden changes in wind speed, very low humidity, and the on/off cycling of the generator unit. Their superior design also results in lower maintenance costs and significantly improved generator reliability.

Morgan offers quality slip rings that ensure superior wind turbine life and performance

Morgan Advanced Materials Electrical Carbon business announces that its quality engineered slip rings, can reduce down time and improve the life of equipment whilst reducing maintenance time and costs. Made with the latest innovations in resin compounds Morgan’s molded slip rings encapsulate all current carrying components, inhibit harmful dust intrusion and contamination, and increase the dielectric strength. They can also be specially engineered to improve airflow, which reduces the amount of thermal build up.

These key benefits make them ideal for use in wind turbines as well as numerous other industrial, traction power and signal transmission applications. Slip rings are offered in a wide range of both standard and customized sizes and designs and can be manufactured in either molded or fabricated versions. High quality slip ring transmitter systems are available in 1 to 8 rings from Morgan, with outside diameters ranging from 24 to 500 mm and feature high mechanical, thermal resistance and excellent dielectric properties.

Morgan national runner-up for investing in skills at the 2014 EEF future manufacturing awards

Morgan Advanced Materials, the world leader in design and manufacturing of innovative materials solutions, has been named runner-up in the Investing in Skills category at this year’s EEF Future Manufacturing Awards having already won the regional prize.

The champions’ champion event, held at the Grand Connaught Rooms in London, pitted the various regional winners against each other to define one national champion in a number of categories. Morgan was named runner-up for the Investing in Skills award sponsored by JAM Recruitment, for its well-planned and executed development programme for both mentors and trainees. The programme focused on offering clear individual development, supported by a process to track their progress and also the programme as a whole. The judges were impressed with this structured programme that was delivered across multiple levels of the business with significant results for all. Becky Cund, UK HR Manager at Morgan Advanced Materials, said: “To be recognised on a national stage like this is a great accomplishment for Morgan and testament to the success of our Graduate and Placement schemes. The HR department received superb support from managers and employees from around the business, without their help we would not be celebrating this achievement.”

Jim Davidson, Region Director for the South East at EEF, said: “The EEF Future Manufacturing Awards showcases the best of British innovation, environmental performance, exporting, skills development and health and safety amongst UK manufacturers, and also, outstanding apprentices.”
Morgan announces range of precision glass tubing and rods

Morgan Advanced Materials announces that its Technical Ceramics facility, which has been in Stourport for a number of years and is a key employer in the district, Morgan Advanced Materials Technical Ceramics facility which has been in Stourport for a number of years and is a key employer in the district.

Using proprietary glass forming processes, the business manufactures small or large quantities of glass tubing and rod to precise tolerances. With a large portfolio of glass compositions, Morgan can develop materials whose coefficient of thermal expansion precisely matches the expansion properties of components being sealed.

Compositions of borosilicate, including those made of the well-known Kiglass material, are used for Kovar sealing, microwave, and fuse casing applications. Soda lime compositions can be used for durnet sealing, a known method to seal copper leads using soda-lime or lead glass, and compression seals, while soda barium options are ideal for compression seals.

Morgan manufactures precision glass products in accordance with ITAR regulations and can support any products that are components within an ITAR application, including laptops, peripherals, and cockpit communications sensor systems.

January 2014

Morgan expands capabilities for injection molding ceramic components

Morgan Advanced Materials announces that it has significantly increased its capabilities at its Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania site. This facility manufactures complex injection molded ceramic components for use in the investment casting of turbine engine blades and vanes for aircraft and power generation, aircraft hardware, pumps, valves, and sporting goods.

As part of the site’s growth, Morgan has installed advanced equipment that will enable it to produce larger parts for industrial gas turbines (IGTs), hired engineers and managers devoted to increasing production, and implemented communication enhancements to improve tracking, shipping, and delivery.

Morgan has invested in capacity and technology to produce IGT components that meet current and future demand. Over the last year, manufacturers have increased the size of manufacturing process to enable more lead-time to be offered to customers and provides capability to meet high volume production requirements. A significant investment has been made in equipment and automation in the past year, including a new X-ray room that is an engineering and tooling laboratory to provide additional support resources.

February 2014

Morgan invests in global materials centre of excellence

Morgan Advanced Materials announces that it is building on this model and founding a Global Centre of Excellence in Stourport, Worcestershire for structural ceramics materials and applications.

The Global Materials Centre of Excellence concept is tried and tested and builds upon the success of the Group’s now well established Global Fibre Research & Development (R&D) centre in Bromborough, Merseyside. Stourport was selected by Morgan from a shortlist of six international manufacturing locations, due in part to support from local MP Mark Garnier and Chancellor George Osborne, and will lead the Group’s development of structural ceramics materials and applications.

Mark Roberts, CEO of Morgan Advanced Materials explained: “Since it was established in 2008, Morgan’s state-of-the-art R&D centre in Bromborough has led to world-leading developments in high temperature fibre thanks to its comprehensive analytical laboratories staffed by more than 20 dedicated scientists. Morgan believes that by building on this model and founding a new Global Materials Centre of Excellence for structural ceramics, we can better serve our global customers by developing new, differentiated materials technologies for structural ceramics applications.

“The Global Centre of Excellence will take the lead on innovation in new formulations and processes, serve as a hub for academic collaboration on structural ceramics with key university faculties worldwide, and act as a focal point for R&D with raw material suppliers. It will allow Morgan to focus on both idea generation and execution in one integrated facility, with the ultimate aim of maximising the performance of our customers’ applications and processes.”

Ahead of the announcement, Mark Roberts, CEO or Morgan, welcomed Wyre Forest MP Mark Garnier to the Stourport facility to discuss the goals of establishing a Global Materials Centre of Excellence and the potential benefits to customers. Mr Garnier commented: “It was a real pleasure to visit the Morgan Advanced Materials Technical Ceramics facility which has been in Stourport for a number of years and is a key employer in the district. It is incredibly exciting to know that it has been chosen as a location for a Global Materials Centre of Excellence. Aside from the very welcome creation of new jobs locally, the opportunity that this brings to Wyre Forest is enormously symbolic.

“Wyre Forest needs companies like Morgan. It needs innovative companies that provide high value manufacturing, innovation, and quality training for its staff. For Morgan to locate a Global Materials Centre of Excellence in Stourport will hopefully create the nucleus of a hub for excellence and high value advanced manufacturing in the district.”

The Stourport Global Materials Centre of Excellence is expected to become operational later this year.
Composite pod developed by Morgan helps Mick hit the top 10 at Sochi

A British skier has enjoyed Winter Paralympic success in a customised composite pod developed by Morgan Advanced Materials. Mick Brennan, who competed in the mono-ski events at Sochi representing ParalympicsGB, lost both legs in 2004 when as an army sergeant serving in Iraq, a suicide bomb exploded nearby. He was hurled through the air and subsequently spent a fortnight in a coma.

He took up skiing in 2008 through the Help for Heroes scheme and in 2012 was put in touch with Morgan’s Composites & Defence Systems business, based in Coventry, by the Combined Services Disabled Ski Team (CSDST).

Chris Davies from Morgan explained: “In the mono-ski events, competitors sit inside a pod attached to a single wide ski, with two handheld poles each with their own narrow skis at the end.

“Mick already had a pod and suspension system. However, the pod was made of fibre glass so was very heavy and not sufficiently manoeuvrable to allow Mick to compete at the top level.

“Our aim therefore was to reduce the overall weight and we achieved this through the introduction of a foam core inside a carbon fibre skin.

“The latest version supplied to Mick for the 2014 Paralympics in incorporates a newly designed single-piece backrest to provide greater support for Mick. “The entire unit now weighs the same as the original pod did on its own – a 50 per cent reduction overall.”

The design team at Morgan created bespoke tooling in conjunction with partner Composite Creations enabling the pod to be manufactured in a single piece, incorporating a state-of-the-art suspension system designed by Supacat, which can be adjusted to a variety of ground conditions.

Morgan announces FireMaster® DryerWrap offering significant installation cost and space savings

Morgan Advanced Materials announces the availability of FireMaster® DryerWrap, a viable and cost effective solution for safely routing dryer exhausts from the laundry room to the building exit that results in significant installation cost and space savings.

Thinner, lighter, and noticeably more flexible than alternative fire wraps currently in the marketplace, FireMaster DryerWrap is ideal for application on dryer ductwork in multi-family residential units to meet fire compartmentalization and life safety requirements.

FireMaster DryerWrap is tested and UL-listed for 1-hour fire resistance on light gage construction up to 7-inch diameter or 10x4 inch rectangular duct penetrating 1-hour rated wood joist gypsym floor. The material is fully encapsulated in aluminium reinforced foil (SPF). Installation is undertaken using 16-gage galvanized steel tie-wire. At 1-inch thick and 6-pound per cubic foot density, the approved 1-inch compression or overlap joints allows for installation inside a 6-space.

Despite its thin and lightweight form, FireMaster DryerWrap high temperature insulation is rated for 210°F continuous exposure and has been fully tested on specifications typical of dryer and domestic kitchen range vent construction.

Morgan presents prestigious Brook Prize for the Best Ceramics PhD in the UK

Morgan Advanced Materials has presented the prestigious annual award for the Best Ceramics PhD in the UK at a ceremony at the 2014 Materials Research Exchange held at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry.

The 2013 Professor Sir Richard Brook Prize was awarded to Dr Huixing Zhang, for her thesis on Mechanical and Microstructural Study of Silicon Carbide and Pyrolytic Carbon Coatings in TRISO Fuel Particles, undertaken at the University of Manchester.

The Brook Prize is organised by the Centre for Advanced Structural Ceramics (CASC) at Imperial College London, and was presented this year by Dr Mike Murray, Chief Technical Officer at Morgan Advanced Materials.

The award winner is selected from ceramic science or engineering PhDs completed at a UK university in the past 12 months, with theses nominated by PhD supervisors. The judging panel, comprising of various industry experts, also receive the abstract of each thesis and a short supporting statement from the students as part of the judging process.

Dr Zhang, who received a certificate and cash prize, holds a PhD from the University of Manchester; an MSc in Materials Science from Harbin Institute of Technology, China, and a BEng in Material Science and Technology from the China University of Mining and Technology. Dr Zhang is currently conducting research on the microstructure and dynamics of molten salt by high temperature NMR spectroscopy at the University of Cambridge.

Dr Zhang said: “I am really happy with my project and truly enjoyed working in such a warm and welcoming department. My colleagues at the University of Manchester were exceptional to work with and willing to help at any point, most notably the technicians in the materials department who were always keen to lend a hand.

“I must also reserve thanks to Morgan Advanced Materials for its continued support of ceramics PhDs across the UK. It’s a great honour to be recognised by a leading player in the market.”

Mike Murray, Chief Technical Officer from Morgan Advanced Materials added: “As a global leader in ceramics, we are delighted to sponsor the Brook Prize for the third successive year. We would like to extend our congratulations to Dr Huixing Zhang for her PhD
Morgan develops armoured composite crew compartment for Tata Motors’re Light Armoured Multipurpose Vehice (LAMV)

Morgan Advanced Materials, through its Composites & Defence Systems business, has drawn on its extensive materials and engineering expertise to design and develop a bespoke armoured composite crew compartment for Tata Motors’ Light Armoured Multipurpose Vehicle (LAMV) programme for the Indian Ministry of Defence. The LAMV prototype was successfully unveiled at Defexpo, New Delhi, in February.

The LAMV incorporates crew protection based upon Morgan’s bespoke composite and ceramic “pod” technology, which has been developed over the past 20 years. The pod creates a detachable, blast and ballistic-resistant crew compartment, which was easily integrated onto the Tata produced chassis and can be modified to provide higher levels of protection as and when required. The Morgan composite and ceramic “pod” provided a weight saving in excess of 1000kg, making it less than half the weight of a similarly protected steel structure.

Vernon Noronha, Vice President – Defence & Government Business, Tata Motors said: “We at Tata Motors acknowledge support of two UK companies - Morgan Advanced Materials Composites and Defence Systems and Supacat. We are proud to have been able to indigenously develop the LAMV for vital reconnaissance mobility, protection and firepower for the Indian armed forces. The response to the Tata LAMV at the Defexpo was very encouraging.”

The Composites and Defence Systems business of Morgan Advanced Materials is a world-leading designer of armoured systems for military vehicles, with unrivalled experience in both ceramics and composites enabling it to deliver optimum performance at the lowest possible weight. The business has been providing armour for a broad range of vehicles used in military operations, including the Mastiff, Ridgeback and Wolfhound fleets for more than 8 years.

Duncan Eldridge, President, Morgan Advanced Materials – Composites & Defence Systems, said: “With its stature in both India and the UK, Tata has combined with our own unrivalled experience in crew protection to deliver a world-leading, state-of-the-art vehicle. We have signed an agreement with Tata to further develop the armour system as part of a strategic relationship which opens up opportunities for both companies.”

UK materials engineering company Morgan Advanced Materials sets up AED 50 million facility in Kizad

Officials from Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (Kizad), one of the largest industrial zones in the world, and Morgan Advanced Materials, a UK provider of high specification engineered products, have signed a 30-year Musataha agreement with an initial investment in their facility of around AED 50 million.

By signing the agreement, Morgan Advanced Materials has been allocated a plot of land in excess of 400,000 square feet, in the industrial zone’s base metals cluster where they will set up a high tech manufacturing facility. The facility, which is expected to commence operations in 2015, will be focusing on the production of products to be used in various market sectors, such as aluminium, energy, transportation, petrochemicals, and fire protection.

Commenting on the signing of the Musataha agreement, Engineer Khaled Salmeen, CEO, Kizad, said: “We are delighted to welcome a further high profile international investor to our industrial zone. With their extensive product range that will cater to a vast number of industries in Kizad and the wider GCC region, Morgan Advanced Materials will benefit from our integrated vertical clustering, economies of proximity, and unparalleled market access through our flagship deepwater Khalifa Port.”

Ian Robb, Regional President for Morgan Advanced Materials, commenting on the signing, stated that: “The Middle East is a very attractive market place for us. Growth in the economy is driving demand from industries, such as aluminium, petrochemicals and energy, where our products and services provide differentiated solutions. With a pro-business environment, low utility costs, and excellent multimodal transportation network, Kizad offers the perfect framework to further develop and grow our business.

Based in Windsor, England, and founded in 1856, Morgan Advanced Materials is listed on the London Stock Exchange in the engineering sector. The company has a global presence of over 9,000 employees, manufactures in more than 30 countries, and serves customers in more than 100 countries.

The company established a sales office in the UAE in 2001 to service customers in the Middle East and North Africa region, especially in the areas of thermal insulation, energy saving, acoustic barriers and fire protection.

Investment increases production of smart sensors, responding to a surge in global demand

Morgan Advanced Materials, a market leader in the design and manufacture of ultrasonic sensors, has made a major investment in a new dedicated assembly cell at one of its UK production facilities, increasing capacity and product consistency.

The investment has come following a major increase in global customer demand for the company’s metering products and is a reflection of Morgan’s commitment to continued investment in its Technical Ceramics sites and products for international distribution.

The global SMART metering market is one that is changing at a rapid rate, with new ultrasonic sensors rapidly replacing older mechanical meters, as the market demands greater accuracy when measuring usage of gas and water.

Ewan Campbell, Product Manager at Morgan Advanced Materials, said: "This new investment will play a key role in supporting our global clients with value added solutions. The facility has the capability of supplying products in volumes that will meet the demands of this rapidly growing market.

"We are currently experiencing a worldwide drive to install smart metering solutions in the residential sector, exemplified in the UK by British Gas’s project to have the latest metering technology in all homes by 2020. This investment positions us ideally to meet current and future demand from across the globe."

Utilising Morgan’s Lead Zirconate Titanate (PZT) materials, the company’s range of high-sensitivity and high temperature stability ultrasonic flow sensors deliver premium performance with the ability to be customised to meet individual customer requirements.

The investment allows specialist engineers in the business to accommodate a range of requirements by adapting the architecture and manufacturing process.
UK partnership secures major MoD contract

Morgan Composite and Defence Systems appoints new Business Development Director

Collaboration creates ‘catalyst’ for further growth in advanced ceramic technologies

A trio of leading UK-based and owned defence sector players, led by Coventry-based Morgan Advanced Materials – Composites & Defence Systems and including Ricardo and Ultra Electronics, has clinched a highly prestigious contract to support and develop the Ministry of Defence’s Cougar family of protected patrol vehicles.

The Cougar Post-Design Service (PDS) programme which covers the Mastiff Ridgback and Wolfhound vehicles fleets is set to be worth up to £20 million over the first two years and could be extended as long as seven years in total, providing a significant boost to the local economy. The programme will see the three companies deliver an annual service contract, with a team of experts on hand around the clock to provide technical and project management services to successfully manage and support the in-service Cougar family vehicle fleet.

Of particular importance to the programme will be the optimisation of safety on the platforms, in addition to configuration management, legal compliance and standardisation of the platforms by rationalising the component supply chain.

The team won the bid against strong competition by best meeting the key criteria specified by the MoD such as quality, software, safety, environmental impact and vehicle integration, as well as the ability to provide a truly sustainable support solution. The contract will cover a fleet of more than 600 vehicles, comprising in excess of 20 variants.

The programme will be co-ordinated from Morgan’s specialist Coventry facility, drawing on the support of the company’s extensive local supply chain which has worked on unclassified defence sector experience, including configuration management, legal compliance and standardisation of the platforms by rationalising the component supply chain.

Defence Minister Philip Dunne said: “As we bring our battle-winning programmes to an end, we must ensure that the UK retains its expertise and capabilities in advanced materials and technologies. This contract is a testament to the high quality of our people and our UK industry. It will further strengthen our position as a global leader in the design, development and supply of advanced materials and technologies.”

Morgan Advanced Materials’ Composites and Defence Systems, explained: “This is a highly significant contract award for us and demonstrates the advantages of harnessing the unique capabilities of key partners such as Ultra Electronics and Ricardo to offer the MoD the best possible service in the key areas of armour protection, vehicle electronics and overall project co-ordination. We believe that the access to these resources was critical in convincing the MoD that the Morgan-led team was the right choice to deliver its requirements.

“Moreover, the contract win formally establishes Morgan as the UK technical authority for the Cougar family, positioning us ideally to bid for further contracts in this area extending far beyond the PDS.

“Morgan Advanced Materials’ Composites and Defence Systems business is a global leader in specialist armour technologies. It designed, developed and integrated UK-specific, specialist armour protection and electronic systems into the entire Cougar family and also implemented and operated the spares support processes, including configuration management, stocking and supply chain management, keeping the fleets running during combat operations.

“We are pleased to be working with Morgan and Ultra on this exciting and important programme,” added Ricardo UK managing director Martin Faussett. “Ricardo has extensive expertise in the design, development, refurbishment and upgrade of military vehicles, and is able to draw upon the very latest skills, technologies and methods of working to support highly sophisticated platforms in the motorsports sectors. We look forward to providing the benefit of our experience to this highly effective, all-British partnership.”

Andy Yates, Managing Director of Ultra Electronics – Precision Air and Land Systems, commented: “We are delighted to be working with Morgan and Ricardo on the Mastiff, Ridgback and Wolfhound fleet PDS programme.

“We are confident that the MoD will receive the most cost effective and best in class solution through our tri party team, which draws on extensive experience in the military vehicle sector.”

“Morgan Advanced Materials, a world leading manufacturer of highly engineered materials, has announced the appointment of Martyn Cook to the management team at its Composites & Defence Systems business based in Coventry. Martyn has taken on the new role of Business Development Director with the goal of developing new market opportunities for the company’s unique composites and armouring capabilities.

Having held a host of managerial roles in a career spanning more than 30 years Martyn joins Morgan from Cobham Antenna Systems, where he was the Sales and Business Development Director. Prior to this, he spent more than a decade in a variety of key commercial roles at Tyco Electronics Limited. Joining the company as Senior Product Manager in 2001; he progressed through various UK and European Management roles, before taking on the position of Global Sales Director for the Marine sector in 2008. Martyn also holds a Masters degree in Polymer Engineering from the University of North London.

On taking on his new role at Morgan Advanced Materials, Martyn said: “It is a great honour for me to join Morgan which has established an enviable reputation for soldier protection and armoured vehicle systems for the global military market place. My aim is to build on this pedigree while also exploring and capitalising on new market opportunities for our growing range of composite materials.

Duncan Eldridge, President of Morgan Composites & Defence Systems, said: “We are delighted to welcome Martyn to the team. His experience and know-how will be key in moving the business forward. We have a unique capability combining state-of-the-art composite and ceramic materials and Martyn will help drive new global opportunities for us in both areas.”

The Composites and Defence Systems business of Morgan Advanced Materials specialises in composite systems for defence applications including vehicle, armour, combat helmets and body armour, as well as EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) suits, all of which are supplied to customers worldwide.

When Martyn is not working, he can be found on the golf course, walking his dog or spending time with his family.

Martin Faussett, director of Morgan Advanced Materials’ Composites & Defence Systems, commented: “We are delighted to be working with Ricardo and Ultra Electronics on this important programme. We are confident that the MoD will receive the most cost effective and best in class solution through our tri party team, which draws on extensive experience in the military vehicle sector.”

Morgan Advanced Materials and Magma Ceramics and Catalysts have come together to create a dynamic international force in the field of advanced ceramic and catalyst technology.

The joint venture between Morgan and Magma will see Morgan’s UK Fired Refractory Shapes business, based in Bromborough, merge with Magma Ceramics and Catalysts.

The merger will create a significantly larger and more effective combined business with a broader technology base, enabling it to capitalise on the significant growth opportunities already identified by both organisations across multiple markets.

The joint venture will operate under the Magma name and be headed by Mark Stuckey, Managing Director of Magma. Morgan will take a 35 per cent shareholding in the combined business, and Simon Halliday, Morgan’s Director of Strategic Programmes, will join the Magma board as a non-executive director.

Morgan Advanced Materials and Magma Ceramics and Catalysts are focused on the development and manufacture of highly engineered materials, with an emphasis on advanced ceramic and catalyst technology.

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