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## **NCDMM Appoints Three New Members to its Board of Directors**

**Latrobe, PA – January 8, 2009.** The National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining (NCDMM) recently expanded its Board of Directors with the appointment of three new members: Ben H. Ernst, President of Ranken Technical College; Larry A. Maier, President and owner of Peerless Precision, Inc.; and Robert K. Simpson, President of AMT – The Association for Manufacturing Technology. In addition, Mr. Mark F. Huston, Kennametal Vice President - Research, Development & Engineering, Metalworking Solutions and Services Group was reappointed to serve another term.

Mr. John S. VanKirk, President and Executive Director of the NCDMM, expressed his pleasure with the addition of the new Board members, noting that each brings a unique area of expertise to help the Center fulfill its mission. “Mr. Ernst has extensive financial and academic institution experience, while Mr. Maier brings a keen perspective of the small shop owner and understands the need for shops to implement advanced technology and address workforce challenges,” stated Mr. VanKirk. “Mr. Simpson will provide a global manufacturing perspective that spans a wide variety of processes and Mr. Huston’s years of experience in the metalcutting industry continues to provide important manufacturing fundamentals to the Center,” added Mr. VanKirk.

The NCDMM would also like to acknowledge and thank Mr. John Byrd, past President of AMT, for his service as an NCDMM Director. Mr. Byrd served over three years, during which time the NCDMM experienced significant growth in terms of revenue, breadth of the customer base, number of Alliance Partners, and size of its Manufacturing Consortium.

The National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining (NCDMM) delivers optimized manufacturing solutions that enhance the quality, affordability, maintainability, and rapid deployment of existing and yet-to-be developed defense systems. NCDMM

collaborates with government, industrial, and academic organizations to promote the implementation of best practices to key stakeholders through the development and delivery of disciplined training, advanced technologies, and methodologies. For additional information, please visit the NCDMM website at <http://www.ncdmm.org>.

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