

UD-CCM wins 2024 SAMPE Organizational Excellence Award

November 1, 2024

The University of Delaware's Center for Composite Materials (UD-CCM) has been named the winner of the 2024 SAMPE North America Organizational Excellence Award.

Every year, the Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering (SAMPE) recognizes at least one outstanding organization in the advanced materials and process community for this honor. Organizations within industry, academia, and the government are all invited to apply for this award. UD-CCM was the sole award winner in 2024.



Pictured (left to right): Uday Balaga (CCM); Sagar Doshi, PhD (CCM); German Reyes-Villanueva, PhD (SAMPE); Srikanth Pilla, PhD (CCM); Shridhar Yarlagadda, PhD (CCM); Sai Aditya Pradeep, PhD (CCM); Tania Lavaggi (CCM); Ashley Tracey (SAMPE)

UD-CCM was selected as this year's recipient due to its extensive history of composites excellence. Over the 50 years of the interdisciplinary center's existence, UD-CCM has striven to uphold its three-pronged mission: to conduct basic and applied research, to educate scientists and engineers, and to transition technology to industry.

In 1985, UD-CCM was awarded one of the first NSF Engineering Research Centers, and since then, UD-CCM has been designated as a center of excellence by the NSF and DOD a total of six times. UD-CCM-affiliated researchers have published more than 10 books and over 5,000 peer-reviewed journal articles with over 500,000 citations.

As a pioneer in university-industry partnerships, UD-CCM has maintained an industrial consortium for over 40 years and has collaborated with over 350 companies, including Boeing, Dupont, and Ford. UD-CCM has over 58,000 square feet of laboratory space where academic and industrial research ranging from technology readiness level (TRL) 1-9 is conducted.

UD-CCM also has actively participated in and supported SAMPE events throughout the years. Affiliated students, faculty, and researchers have presented over 200 technical papers at SAMPE-sponsored conferences, and students have regularly participated in SAMPE's bridge, fuselage, and poster competitions.

Consideration was also given to UD-CCM's expected future endeavors. Now under the new leadership of Director Srikanth Pilla, PhD, the center promises to continue advancing composites research, particularly within the realms of artificial intelligence and sustainability. This new era promises great innovation and development to extend UD-CCM's legacy of composites excellence.

UD-CCM's win will be publicized in an upcoming issue of the SAMPE Journal.

SAMPE began awarding the North America Organizational Excellence Award in 2017, and UD-CCM is its 10th recipient.

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