

Center Specs

Name: National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Center "Repair of Buildings and Bridges with Composites" (RB²C)
Lead Institution: University of Miami (PI: Dr. Antonio Nanni)
Partner Institution: North Carolina State University (PI: Dr. Sami H. Rizkalla)
Mission: Addressing the needs of the construction industry in the areas of strengthening, repair and retrofit of existing structures using the novel, untapped potential of advanced composite materials and technologies.

Overview of Research Activities

The RB²C Center focuses on addressing the needs of the construction industry in the areas of strengthening, repair and retrofit of existing structures using the novel, untapped potential of advanced composite materials and technologies.

The knowledge, experience, interests and resources of industry partners are integrated with university research and development capabilities: industry partners provide expertise and resources in the design and application of advanced composites, while university partners provide technical expertise, and theoretical and experimental research resources. The Center creates a forum for technology development and transfer that could not be achieved by any of the individual participants.

The Center originally started in 1998 at the University of Missouri-Rolla, and became a multi-university center in 2002, when North Carolina State University joined. The Center was transferred in 2006 to the University of Miami.

In March 2007, the Center became an active partner of the Miami WindTM, a collaborative research center of the University of Miami and Rowan, Williams, Davies & Irwin, Inc. (RWDI), a internationally renowned consulting firm in wind engineering, environmental air quality and noise management. Miami WindTM operates the largest wind tunnel facility in the country, and is dedicated to the generation and dissemination of knowledge of wind effects on structures and sustainable design solutions.

Other Areas of Interest for Collaboration

Construction materials
Structural health monitoring
Structural control

Directors, these are the specifications for putting together a simple overview of your current or pending research. Please submit the overview to Kate Ryan at kryan@abecker.com by December 10, 2007.

1. The overview should be no more than one page, single- or double-spaced.
2. Text should be understandable to non-specialists in your field.
3. Graphics are acceptable, but they should not substitute for text.

Thank you!