

Seattle Business

WASHINGTON'S LEADING BUSINESS MAGAZINE

JUNE 2010

SLALOM CONSULTING:
TAKING ON THE BIG FIVE

THE SPIRITS OF
WASHINGTON

THE DATA STORAGE
COMPANY THAT
STARRED IN AVATAR

PARAGONS OF PRODUCTION

THE INAUGURAL
WASHINGTON
MANUFACTURING
AWARDS



SEATTLEBUSINESSMAG.COM

Left to right: Renewable Energy Composite Solutions Managing Director Joe Foggia, Director of Operations Brad Given and Chief Financial Officer Dean Anderson.



MIDSIZE COMPANIES

MANUFACTURING INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPOSITE SOLUTIONS LLC

(VANCOUVER)

CHRISTENSEN IS ONE of the best-known names in the custom yacht building business—a good business to be in when times are good.

The conventional response to a recession that dried up orders for the sort of multimillion-dollar boats that Christensen builds is to slash staffing and hope to ride out the storm.

Christensen President Joe Foggia opted for the unconventional. In looking around for something that his skilled workers could do, he hit upon this: Christensen yachts are made with fiberglass and composite materials. Wind turbines have big components made of fiberglass and composite materials. The company's website notes, "There is a high degree of correlation between the construction of composite ships and the manufacturing of composite components used in renewable energy."

And, thus, Renewable Energy Composite Solutions (RECS) was born as a new business ven-

RUNNERS-UP **3 PHASE ENERGY SYSTEMS** (AUBURN)

■ Exhaust emitted by industrial and commercial air filtration systems is wasted energy. The Exhaust Regenerator by 3 Phase Energy Systems turns that energy from wasted to productive by converting it to electricity that can be used by the facility. The company says the regenerator can produce a return on investment of two years or less. 3 Phase Energy Systems was started by Pete Agtuca, who was looking for an energy consumption-cutting project at another manufacturing company he operates, Pacific Air Cargo Transfer Systems.

SAFE BOATS INTERNATIONAL (PORT ORCHARD)

■ Forget big. In dealing with maritime security threats of today and tomorrow, what the military and other protective agencies need is small, fast, highly maneuverable yet still lethal watercraft. That's what Safe Boats makes: boats up to 70 feet in length that can get to the scene of trouble in a hurry. Such has been the backlog of orders for Safe Boats that it has built employment up to 300.

ture of Christensen Shipyards. By converting a portion of the shipyard to production for this new market and by incorporating lean manufacturing techniques into the design from the start, RECS hopes to tap the potentially huge market for wind turbine blades, and for electricity-producing tidal turbines and wave-motion buoys.

Adding the new business line allowed Christensen to hire back as many as 200 workers (99 on a temporary basis) of the more than 300 workers laid off from the yacht building side. The company landed a \$1 million Washington State Energy Program grant for retooling and retraining costs. One of RECS' first projects is working with Oregon State University and Skyron Systems Inc. of Portland on a design for vertical wind turbines.

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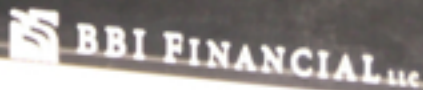


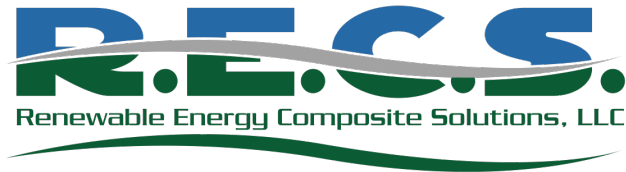
2010

Manufacturing
Innovation of the Year

Midsized Companies

Renewable Energy
Composite Solutions LLC





NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27th, 2010

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Renewable Energy Composite Solutions, LLC, Clark County – Was presented with the 2010 Manufacturing Innovation of the Year Award for Midsize Companies, given by Seattle Business Magazine and Impact Washington. RECS is recognized for the introduction of innovative techniques in manufacturing that promote lean and sustainable manufacturing. This focus has allowed RECS to increase productivity and improve quality while reducing waste. Washington Manufacturing Awards honor the crucial role the winning companies play in our state's economy.

RECS, a sister corporation to Christensen Shipyards, Ltd. was organized to foster diversity and promote job stability and growth in Clark County. By applying manufacturing techniques pioneered by Christensen Shipyards, Ltd. in boatbuilding to the renewable energy market, RECS has been able to quickly establish itself as a key player in a rapidly growing market. RECS unique combination of expertise in composite structures, methods and materials has allowed them to work effectively with product developers both in rapid prototyping and in commercial manufacturing of new technologies.

The management and staff of RECS are delighted to be recognized as a member of Washington's manufacturing elite but also wish to acknowledge that this success was not achieved alone. We would like to extend a special thanks to some of our partners, Jeanie Ashe of the Columbia River Economic Development Council, Scott Lindsay of SML Consulting, and Nigel Moore of Impact Washington. Without their assistance RECS could not have achieved so much so quickly.

About RECS:

Renewable Energy Composite Solutions (RECS) is the Pacific Northwest's wind turbine and hydrokinetic composite component fabrication and manufacturing specialist. For on and off-shore wind turbines, and ocean, marine and tidal hydrokinetic components, RECS delivers state-of-the-art composite fabrication solutions.

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