

Advanced Energy Job Stimulus Program

A key component of Ohio's program to create new jobs and encourage economic development, the \$150 million Advanced Energy Job Stimulus Program is designed to support new technology projects on a fast track toward commercialization. As part of the \$1.57 billion job stimulus package signed into law by Governor Ted Strickland in June 2008, the goal of the program is to employ Ohio workers in the advanced energy jobs of the future. The \$150 million advanced energy funding (over three years) seeks to increase the development, production and use of advanced energy technologies in the state, and is divided into two parts:

- \$66 million for clean coal technology projects administered through OAQDA's Ohio Coal Development Office (OCDO) (reviewed by staff, outside reviewers and the Technical Advisory Committee and approved by OAQDA); and
- \$84 million for non-coal-related projects in three \$28 million annual appropriations administered by OAQDA (reviewed by staff and outside reviewers, the Development Finance Advisory Council, approved by OAQDA and brought before Controlling Board for final approval).

**VIL Laser Systems****Project Name:****Lithium-ion Battery Manufacturing Process****Project Location:**

Fort Loramie, Ohio (Shelby County)

Applicant Information:

Wayne Trail Technologies, Inc. is a recognized leader in the design of flexible, automated systems used in a variety of metal forming, fabricating and joining industries. The company serves a wide variety of industrial clients, including those involved in the automotive, aerospace, appliance, HVAC and metal furniture industries. Its current market segments include press automation; tube bending and fabricating systems; hydroform and structural frame automation; robotics, welding and fixturing; VIL laser blank welding systems/ Precision Edge Prep Systems; fully integrated turn-key manufacturing systems; and build-to-print manufacturing services.

Project Description:

Wayne Trail – working with its subsidiary, VIL Laser Systems – is designing a unique manufacturing process used in lithium-ion battery packs. This new process is in response to the accelerating market demand for hybrid electric vehicles. Automated production capacity is required to produce the lithium-ion cells that power these vehicles. To meet the increased demand from the battery manufacturing sector, Wayne Trail will begin immediate and full commercialization of this new manufacturing system. The new system will conserve floor space and increase production capabilities for battery manufacturers.



Universal laser processing cell, which is used for laser welding



Funding Request (adjusted): \$838,440

Approved Funding: \$838,440 loan over five years; \$164,400 of remaining principal balance will be forgiven if job commitment met within three years

Total Projected Investment: \$9,016,440

Use of Stimulus Program Funds: Full-scale system development, construction, testing

Jobs Created: 37 new full-time jobs

Jobs Retained: 120 full-time jobs retained

Types of Jobs Created: Engineering, assembly/machinists and installers, service warranty positions

Qualifying Technology Category: Energy Efficiency

Product to be Manufactured: A work cell array to manufacture lithium-ion battery components

Industry Sector Customers: Battery manufacturing, automotive, alternative energy and high technology

Industry Sector Suppliers: Robotic Manufacturing (an Ohio company) and high technology (many Ohio suppliers)



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