UTILITY & COMMUNICATIONS STRUCTURES COUNCIL

The mission of this Council is to improve the resiliency and reliability of power delivery and communications infrastructure by promoting the use and understanding of FRP composite poles and crossarms for electrical distribution, transmission, and communication structure applications. Council members undertake proactive activities dealing with education, advocacy and legislation, regulation, marketing, and development of codes and standards.

Activities and Achievements:

- **Published** a new ACMA Advisory document on Nuisance Dust to be used when engaging member customers.
- **Supported** in the execution and developed educational content for the Construction and Infrastructure Composites Technology Days.
- **Developed** an ANSI/ACMA Standard Specification for FRP Composite Utility Poles to educate and inform electric utility engineers about how FRP poles are manufactured, assembled, specified, and installed safely and correctly.
- **Participated** in the resolution of code change proposals for the 2022 National Electric Safety Code for electrical utility structures that affected FRP composites.
- **Supported** ACMA's Climate Impact Reduction through Composites Lifecycle Evaluation (CIRCLE) program to proactively address sustainability needs and demands of the automotive composites industry with the performance of composites.
- **Conducted** outreach to government agencies (DoE, USDA), briefings with Congressional Staff of the respective House and Senate Science Committees and Composites Caucus, and utility professional organizations to educate owners and users on composites benefits and standards.
- **Developed** educational session on composites at various utility industry conferences to educate civil/structural utility engineers on the benefits of using composites.
- **Participated** in the World Trade Organization (WTO) environmental goods negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland. Meetings with international trade representatives resulted in the addition of composite utility poles on the list to be considered for tariff elimination.

Current and Future Projects:

- **Education:** Conduct educational training for lineman with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) on the use, safe handling, and installation of FRP utility poles and crossarms.
- **Standards:** Complete the development of a new ANSI/ACMA standard specification on FRP crossarms. Update the ANSI/ACMA Utility Pole Standard. Support 2027 IEEE NESC code.
- **Marketing:** Support ACMA's CIRCLE Project in the development of multiple Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for manufacturers.
- **Advocacy:** Support ACMA Capitol Hill initiatives to guide ACMA on important legislative issues regarding reliability and resiliency of the electric grid.
- **Outreach**: Promote composites and educate key Congressional committees, federal agencies, and trade associations. Interface with the USDA RUS, APPA, EEI, and ASCE and others to promote the adoption of the ANSI/ACMA FRP Utility Pole Specification. Interface with NARUC, FEMA, DoE, FERC, and NERC to educate and promote awareness on composites.

For more information, or to join this committee, contact the Composites Growth Initiative at cgi@acmanet.org.

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MEMBERSHIP

Manufacturers:

- ✓ Altec Composites
- ✓ Avient
- ✓ Core Molding Technologies, Inc.
- ✓ Creative Composites Group
- ✓ Enduro Composites
- ✓ FRE Composites
- ✓ GEOTEK
- ✓ IsoTruss Inc.
- ✓ McClarin Composites
- ✓ Resilient Structures
- ✓ RS Technologies Inc. (Affiliation w/Resilient Structures)
- ✓ Trident Industries
- ✓ Valmont Composites Structures

Suppliers and Distributors:

- ✓ AOC
- ✓ Composites One, LLC
- ✓ Covestro LLC
- ✓ EJ Muskegon Composites
- ✓ INEOS Composites
- ✓ Owens Corning
- ✓ Polynt

Affiliates:

- ✓ Composites Association of New Zealand (CANZ)
- ✓ FX Consulting LLC
- ✓ Lucintel
- ✓ Sustainable Composites
- ✓ University of Maine - Advanced Structures and Composites Center
- ✓ University Of Massachusetts Lowell
- ✓ University Of Miami; Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering