

WVTC Manitoba's Vehicle Technology Centre

Developing Manitoba's world class
vehicle and transportation equipment industry



Manitoba's Vehicle Technology Centre

Formed in 2002, the Vehicle Technology Centre Inc. (VTC) is a non-profit corporation designed to serve Manitoba's surface transportation equipment manufacturing industry. The goal is to provide a forum for promoting industry co-operation, expanded infrastructure, innovation and use of new technologies.

A board of industry members with government observers leads the organization. VTC's leadership allows it to work as an intermediary between government and industry, making it highly responsive to both.

Transportation equipment manufacturing represents thousands of jobs in Manitoba. VTC plays a role in keeping those jobs in our province and maintaining the economic spin-off they generate for our provincial economy.

VTC MISSION, VISION AND GOALS

MISSION

To foster the continuing growth and profitability of Manitoba's vehicle and transportation equipment manufacturers to make Manitoba a vehicle manufacturing centre of excellence.

VISION

To be industry leaders collaborating to facilitate key technology and infrastructure projects, which keep Manitoba's vehicle and transportation equipment sectors at the forefront in North America.

GOALS

- help manufacturers meet technology development, testing and related needs
- support development of advanced technology among suppliers and promote expansion of the local supplier base
- promote export of transportation equipment and related parts, products and services
- help the industry to identify and meet common training needs
- promote co-operative problem-solving links to industries with similar technology, testing, training or export needs
- help remove barriers to needed financial, technical and other resources for the industry and its suppliers



*Motor Coach
Industries: J4500*

Triple E Canada Ltd: Empress Elite





Fort Garry Industries:
custom enclosed control MXV



Arne's Welding Ltd:
lowbed trailer

VTC CONTRIBUTIONS AND PROJECT INVOLVEMENT

- helped WESTEST, a Manitoba firm specializing in testing services for the transportation and equipment manufacturing industries acquire approximately \$1.5 million in specialized equipment used to simulate actual operating conditions needed to test prototype vehicle components in a laboratory environment
- supported cold weather testing and demonstration of a hydrogen-fuelled transit bus, contributing toward a user survey and development of a specialized refuelling facility
- contributed to the Industrial Technology Centre of Winnipeg acquisition of a corrosion test chamber used in developing vehicle components resistant to salt spray and other contaminants
- worked with the Composites Innovation Centre to prepare a comprehensive specification for composite parts for ground transportation applications

EXAMPLES OF VTC PROJECTS

- assisting WESTEST in the purchase of vehicle powertrain testing equipment, including a tow dynamometer and a data acquisition system
- introducing a program of financial incentives to original equipment manufacturers to partner with one or more of their suppliers in the development of high technology products and processes

VTC FUNDING AND LEADERSHIP

VTC is funded by Western Economic Diversification and the Province of Manitoba under the Canada-Manitoba Economic Partnership Agreement. Other contributions include a VTC executive director and office facilities provided by the Province, and board leadership by Manitoba vehicle and transportation equipment manufacturers and the University of Manitoba Transport Institute. Additional technical assistance is provided by the National Research Council's Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP).

MANITOBA'S VTC AND THE FUTURE

In recent years, government assistance, both directly and through VTC, has helped Manitoba's two bus manufacturers strengthen their positions in the marketplace. They have made Manitoba an undisputed leader in the manufacture of superior quality transit and intercity buses.

Manitoba is also home to several other thriving companies that manufacture purpose-built vehicles, design and supply sophisticated parts, and provide the services required to test and perfect them. VTC's role is to work wherever possible to continue promoting the development and expansion in this industry and its work force.

With funding provided by the federal and provincial governments, VTC is currently introducing an original equipment manufacturers and suppliers development program. This cost-shared program will act as a catalyst to multi-partner projects developing new technologies required by Manitoba transportation and agribusiness manufacturers.

VTC seeks to develop a teamwork approach between manufacturers and their suppliers that will ultimately increase economic growth, create new jobs and support sustainable development.



Vansco Electronics:
An employee completes
work on electronic boards

New Flyer Industries:
Cleveland BRT pilot bus





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BOARD REPRESENTATION

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Fort Garry Industries
Motor Coach Industries
New Flyer Industries
Triple E Canada Ltd.
University of Manitoba Transport Institute
Vansco Electronics

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