

**LINCOLN COMPOSITES, INC. PROVIDES  
7000 PSI TUFFSHELL® FUEL TANKS  
FOR HYDROGEN FUELING STATIONS**

**LINCOLN, NE, February 4, 2005** – Lincoln Composites, Inc., a subsidiary of Hexagon Composites ASA (NO: *Obx*) announced today that it has been selected by Gas Technology Institute (GTI) to provide high pressure storage tanks for two hydrogen fueling applications. The 7000 psi (483 bar) all-composite, Type IV TUFFSHELL® fuel tanks will be produced in the Lincoln, Nebraska manufacturing facility for delivery in May 2005.

Gas Technology Institute is working on a project in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to produce two hydrogen fueling stations: a stationary 50 kg/day, high pressure hydrogen fueling station using reformed natural gas, and a trailer-mounted portable fueling station for short-term hydrogen vehicle demonstration activities. An important component of a gaseous fueling station design is the high pressure gas storage system. A fueling station used to fill hydrogen vehicles to 5000 psi (350 bar) requires a storage system operating at higher pressures. TUFFSHELL® tanks are an exceptional fit for this application, as they are capable of high operating pressures while providing the cycle life necessary for a fueling station. According to William Dick, President of Lincoln Composites, “A 5000 psi TUFFSHELL® tank was recently subjected to over 500,000 cycles at 125% of service pressure. This type of testing demonstrates the benefits of our TUFFSHELL® technology as it relates to cycle life, durability and performance.”

In addition to the performance benefits of the TUFFSHELL® technology, the cost effectiveness of this technology and the fifteen year history of working with the Lincoln Composites group are critical reasons for GTI’s selection of TUFFSHELL® fuel tanks. “Lincoln Composites’ high-pressure hydrogen containers look attractive for hydrogen storage,” says Bill Liss, Director of Hydrogen Energy Systems at GTI. “For stationary uses, the largest pressure vessels are price competitive with steel and lower than alternative composite storage vessels. For the portable hydrogen station, the combination of price and lightweight make the Lincoln containers attractive.”

Metal liner technologies require increased weight and cost to improve cycle life. Lincoln Composites TUFFSHELL® tanks provide high cycle performance while maintaining their lightweight properties and low cost. This is a critical aspect when considering the transportation of hydrogen gas. “When the goal is to transport hydrogen fuel as opposed to heavy metal tanks, our TUFFSHELL® tanks are the optimal and most cost-effective solution. Our tanks are more competitive than metal lined tanks in weight, cost, and cycle life; hydrogen fueling stations are an ideal use for our technology,” stated William Dick.

Lincoln Composites is a leading designer and manufacturer of filament wound, high performance composite products for commercial markets. Lincoln Composites' products include: Natural Gas Vehicle (NGV) tanks, modular fuel storage systems, accumulator tanks, oil and gas products, and industrial and automotive shafts for commercial markets. Further information on Lincoln Composites is available at [www.lincolncomposites.com](http://www.lincolncomposites.com).

GTI is the leading research, development and training organization serving the natural gas industry. For more than 60 years, GTI has been meeting the nation's energy and environmental challenges by developing technology-based solutions for consumers, industry and government.

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