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PURDUE TRIBOLOGIST JOINS R&D TEAM AT ENGINEERED CUSTOM LUBRICANTS

Aurora, IL – February 21, 2014. Dr. Benjamin Leonard’s career goal is to “become the ‘go-to guy’ who can solve any tribological problem and make advanced concepts accessible to engineers who have not specialized in the area.” As a recent hire at Engineered Custom Lubricants’ research and development lab, that pretty much summarizes his job description as well.

“Ben will bridge an important gap for us,” said ECL vice-president Paul Bedford. “We have experienced applications engineers and chemists, including a recent hire that ranked in top of her undergraduate class, in our R&D department. A Ph.D. in tribology who focuses on how mechanical parts interact under various lubrication regimes and operating environments will pull it all together. Our goal is to create an application and validation lab that provides customers with lubricant samples that work the first time – to reduce customer validation costs and shorten their product development time-to-market. Ben will move us toward that goal.”

Leonard earned a master’s degree in Mechanical Engineer and a Ph.D. in Tribology (the study of lubrication, friction, and wear) from Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. As a doctoral candidate, Leonard worked closely with his advisor, noted tribologist Dr. Farshid Sadeghi, Cummins Professor of Mechanical Engineering and founder of School of Mechanical Engineering Tribology Laboratory (METL), which, since 1986, has been engaged in basic and applied research for governmental and industrial agencies. While at Purdue, Leonard co-authored 10 articles with Professor Sadeghi, which have appeared in several technical journals, including *The Journal of Engineering Tribology*, *Tribology Transactions*, *Wear* and the *International Journal of Solids and Structures*. He also successfully completed internships at Siemens Energy and Visteon. In 2010, Leonard received the Walter D. Hodson Award from Society of Tribology and Lubrication Engineers for the best paper by an STLE member under 35.

Engineered Custom Lubricants, founded in 1954, is a privately held growth company that designs, manufactures, markets and sells high performance, first-fill greases and coatings for OEMs and their suppliers. ECL offers more than 400 greases, fluorinated dispersions and waterborne dry film coatings that are specified by OEMs and their suppliers. Recently, it founded Engineered Custom Lubricants GmbH in Hamburg, Germany, and acquired Lubrication Technology, Inc., manufacturer of Christo-Lube® brand lubricants. ECLI Products, LLC, owns and does business as Engineered Custom Lubricants and Lubrication Technology. For more information, visit ECLLube.com or call +630.449.5000 or +49 40 38666080.

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