



## E-BRIEF



**NORTHWEST OHIO  
INNOVATION CONSORTIUM**

POWERING INNOVATION TOGETHER

**OCTOBER 2025**

### UPDATE FROM THE INNOVATION HUB

Across NOIC initiatives, one thing was common this month: advocacy for the communities we serve. Teams met with a wide range of local stakeholders, including career and technical teachers, manufacturing training coordinators, plant engineers, glass science experts, and more. Deepening our understanding of the needs, resources, and obstacles at all levels of local industry and education helps direct our path forward, align our efforts with our partners, and ensure our work is highly impactful to those who matter most: the people who live, work, and learn in Northwest Ohio.

The first three local glass recycling locations are open and accepting recycled glass through GRIT Powered by NOIC, a collaboration with Recycle Services, LLC. These sites, located in Sylvania, Perrysburg, and Secor Metropark, are the first of the anticipated 24 collection sites to be opened locally under the partnership.

The University of Toledo welcomed Dr. Donghui Zhao, a national expert in materials science, to campus this month, as the framework for the future glass science program begins to take shape. Dr. Zhao will lead the creation of interdisciplinary glass science curriculum at the university and support graduate assistant participation in NOIC research as part of the Talent Development pillar. Dr. Zhao spent time with the NOIC team becoming familiar with the goals, strategy, and anticipated research needs of each pillar, and met with glass industry leaders to align industry needs with academic content.

### PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: AI PROCESS CONTROL

Earlier this month, NOIC program manager Matthew Kirian and special advisor to NOIC, Josh Peeno visited the Owens Corning plant in Delmar, NY where the AI Process Control team will implement models regarding efficiency and machine learning.

The predictive models in development include computational fluid dynamics (CFD) and process machine learning, which will be

implemented on a manufacturing line in the plant to predict variables that impact the melted glass inside a furnace, like heat transfer, pressure, and viscosity.

In partnership with CelSian's modeling team, NOIC personnel met with Owens Corning plant and modeling engineers to clearly define parameters and validate the modeling correlations done so far. They also spoke with the Delmar plant engineers about optimal usability factors and their desired user interface to ensure the models are as efficient to use as possible.

Thank you to Owens Corning for partnering on this exciting project! The AI Process Control team extends special thanks to the Delmar and Granville Science & Technology engineering teams for a thorough plant tour and extensive collaboration. This trip not only solidified the path forward for the current CFD and machine learning models, but also led the teams to discover an additional project opportunity that will further optimize furnace control and efficiency.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### November 4-6<sup>th</sup>: Great Lakes AI Week hosted by Bowling Green State University

The largest AI conference in the region, featuring masterclasses and workshops discussing the impact of AI on leadership, business, sports, and more



[Click here for more information & tickets](#)

#### December 18<sup>th</sup> 12-1 PM: Virtual Lunch & Learn Series: NOIC's 2025 Year in Review

Hear from our Program Managers about each pillar's progress throughout the year, highlighting accomplishments, obstacles, and the future direction of each initiative

Google Meet invite coming soon

Sincerely,

Roger Smith  
President  
Northwest Ohio Innovation Consortium

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.