



NEWS RELEASE

\$1.6 Million to QuesTek Innovations LLC *Congresswoman Schakowsky Helps Fund New Ultrahigh-strength Corrosion Resistant Steel*

Evanston, Illinois 3/6/08 – Today, QuesTek Innovations LLC, a materials solutions company with a focus in aerospace applications, announced that Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky has secured \$1.6 million in federal funding for a new alloy, *Ferrium*® S53, which has corrosion resistant properties that eliminate the need for toxic cadmium plating currently used in landing gear.

“We are very thankful to Ms. Schakowsky,” said Dr. Charles Kuehmann, President and Chief Executive Officer of QuesTek Innovations. “*Ferrium* S53 significantly improves the reliability of aircraft landing gear while reducing their environmental impact and without her support the DoD and commercial aviation would not realize these benefits for many years to come.”

Steels used in numerous aerospace applications, specifically landing gear, are not corrosion resistant and therefore require protective cadmium plating. Cadmium, a known carcinogen, represents significant environmental risks in both primary aerospace manufacture and at overhaul and repair facilities. *Ferrium* S53 is an ultrahigh-strength corrosion resistant steel with mechanical properties better than conventional steels and eliminates the need for toxic metal plating.

“I’m proud that I was able to help secure \$1.6 million federal funding to replace toxic metal plated landing gear with a new, corrosion resistant steel”, U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL). “Not only will this new steel improve the safety of our Air Force fleet, but it will also protect the health of engineers, manufacturers and the environment by eliminating the use of toxic cadmium. QuesTek Innovations is a leader in developing new, innovative technologies that will improve the efficiency of our military while protecting the health and safety of workers. While the military will be the first to use this material, the new corrosion resistant steel could eventually improve the safety of the commercial airline industry.”

QuesTek Innovations LLC is an innovative materials solutions company that designs and develops new materials, including high-performance steels and other alloys, in less time and cost than traditional empirical methods. They achieve dramatically reduced design and development times and cost through their proprietary *Materials by Design*® technology which integrates powerful computer design tools with proprietary material structure and processing models. QuesTek is currently working with the Department of Defense and leading aerospace companies to accelerate the insertion of new materials into advanced aerospace components. Information about QuesTek can be found on the Internet at <http://www.questek.com> or contact Brian Tufts at 847-425-8241, btufts@questek.com