NEWS RELEASE

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ENGINEERING FIRM SECURES FUNDS TO STREAMLINE AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING AND HELP INDUSTRY BOUNCE BACK POST COVID

Midlands-based firm TextureJet has recently been awarded nearly £150k funding from the National Aerospace Technology Exploitation Programme (NATEP), which aims to help SMEs innovate in aerospace. The funding will further develop TextureJet's own innovative surface processing technology STAT, to help streamline production lines within the aerospace industry.

Research indicates that the project, known as STREAM: 'Surface Texture Re-tooling for Efficient Aerospace Manufacturing' could lead to an 80% reduction of non-value process steps when preparing surfaces for bonding; key process areas in both propulsion and aerostructures within aerospace manufacturing. These efficiency gains will represent significant financial savings for the industry.

Creation of advanced manufacturing technologies such as STAT are critical to ensuring UK manufacturing is globally competitive. With the effects of Covid-19, now more than ever, streamlining production in the UK aerospace industry is critical for survival and regrowth.

"By further developing our patented STAT technology, we're confident that STREAM can play a key role in reducing production costs in the aerospace industry and help it to bounce back from the effects of COVID-19". Jonathon Mitchell – Smith, Managing Director, TextureJet Ltd.

In this difficult economic environment, securing STREAM funding allows TextureJet to enhance regional employment within manufacturing, which has been hard hit by the coronavirus, helping to safeguard 6 existing positions as well as the creation of 7 further positions by 2022. It has already led to the recruitment of a new graduate design engineer at the end of 2020.

Collaborating on this project is Codem Composites Ltd, a specialist manufacturer who brings end user insights and capabilities and will play a key role in the testing of surfaces and composite to metal bonding along validating the new machine tool in the end user environment.

This is the second Government grant for TextureJet, with the earlier funding focusing on the significant environmental benefits STAT technology can bring and demonstrates the company's ethos of innovation and sustainability at the core of their business.

The NATEP funding for the STREAM project is supported by the ATI Programme, a joint Government and industry investment to maintain and grow the UK's competitive position in civil aerospace design and manufacture. The programme, delivered through a partnership between the Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI), Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and Innovate UK, addresses technology, capability and supply chain challenges.

To find out more about STAT technology, the STREAM project or TextureJet, visit texturejet.com

Notes to Editors:

About TextureJet Ltd.

TextureJet designs, develops, and deploys machine tools and technologies for surface processing in high value manufacturing. TextureJet was Incorporated in April 2019 as a spin-out from the University of Nottingham after the now managing director successfully completed the Innovate UK supported ICURe (Innovation to Commercialisation of University Research) programme.

About NATEP

NATEP assists companies in the aerospace supply chain to work collaboratively in the development of innovative technologies through a unique combination of match funding, mentoring and end user support. The mentoring is provided by a high calibre technical and management resource to help companies accelerate their technology development towards market readiness. Participation in the programme equips project partners to win new business with existing customers and to diversify their customer base. Since 2013 the programme has brought together technology collaborations of more than 350 aerospace supply chain micro, small and medium sized companies. The programme is funded via the ATI Programme.

Ends.