CTC LAUNCHES NUCLEAR MANUFACTURING CENTER

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Concurrent Technologies Corp. debuted the Center for Advanced Nuclear Manufacturing at the company’s Industrial Park Road facility Thursday. Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) U.S. Rep. Keith Rothfus, R-Sewickley; Ed Sheehan, CTC president and CEO; David Blee, Nuclear Industry Council director; and Rob Akans, CTC senior director of manufacturing facilities. Story, Page A7.

Some of these modular reactors could be installed solely to serve one large company, including massive factories and defense contractors, Blee said.

Much like a similar Advanced Manufacturing Center in the United Kingdom, CTC’s role will be in the design, analysis and cost-reduction fields — not building reactors, he and Sheehan noted.

What was really needed was leadership ... and CTC seized the day with their track record and leadership," Blee said, noting that it stood out among other hopefuls.

"We are honored to meet this demand to launch and operate the (Center for Advanced Nuclear Manufacturing) and look forward to continued collaboration with the NIC’s working group, member companies, academia and other organizations," Sheehan said.

This week marks CTC’s 30th anniversary — and U.S. Rep. Keith Rothfus, R-Sewickley, indicated the company has plenty to celebrate.

"This center will be an important asset to help us meet our evolving energy needs — now and in the future," Rothfus said.

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Concurrent Technologies Corp. celebrated the Center for Advanced Nuclear Manufacturing inside the company’s Industrial Park Road facility in Richland Township on Thursday. It’s a move that creates a first-of-its-kind research, problem-solving and design hub for the nation’s “next-generation” power plant development industry, U.S. nuclear manufacturing industry officials said.

"The United States Nuclear Infrastructure Council’s working group and a list of industry companies conducted a more-than-year-long review to find a company prepared to operate the center and CTC emerged as the consensus choice," said Vince Gilbert, a senior fellow with the Nuclear Infrastructure Council, a Washington D.C.-based business consortium.

CTC President and CEO Ed Sheehan said the Richland-based corporation has been designing new solutions for complicated defense and manufacturing industry tasks for decades — including a U.S. Navy shipyard project aimed at enhancing nuclear ship construction capabilities.

"Now, we’re leveraging those processes into the nuclear industry itself," he said during Thursday’s ribbon-cutting.

The event also served as an open house for the nuclear industry. Sheehan was joined by local, state and federal elected officials, economic development leaders and what Nuclear Infrastructure Council Director David Blee described as a “who’s-who of American nuclear energy companies” — industry officials who were planning to meet individually with CTC executives Thursday.

CTC employs 550 people across the country, including 450 in Richland Township.

Approximately 30 people in