

# Obama Administration Announces New Revolutionary Fibers & Textiles Manufacturing Innovation Hub

written by admin | April 11, 2016

(SSTI: 4-1-16) The eighth manufacturing innovation institute brings over \$300 million in public-private investment from leading universities and manufacturers to develop futuristic fabrics and textiles, helping accelerate the revival of textiles manufacturing in the United States. Today, Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced that a leading consortium of 89 manufacturers, universities, and non-profits organized by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) will spearhead a new manufacturing innovation institute in partnership with the Department of Defense focused on securing U.S. leadership in revolutionary fibers and textiles manufacturing. The new Revolutionary Fibers and Textiles Manufacturing Innovation Institute in Cambridge, MA, will combine over \$75 million of Federal resources with nearly \$250 million of non-Federal investment in innovative fabrics and textiles with novel properties ranging from being incredibly lightweight and flame resistant, to having exceptional strength and containing electronic sensors. With wide-ranging applications, these technical textiles can forge protective gear for firefighters impervious to the hottest flames, replicate the sensing capabilities of a smart watch into a lightweight fabric, or detect when a wounded soldier needs to be treated with an antimicrobial compression bandage.