



7950 Corporate Blvd.
Plain City, OH 43064
(614) 733-3300 Phone
(614) 733-3301 Facsimile

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Contact:

Jeff McDaniel
Velocys
614-733-3319
mcdaniel@velocys.com

Lee Tonkovich Named Inventor of the Year

Microchannel Process Technology Pioneer Recognized with TopCAT Award

PLAIN CITY, Ohio, Jan. 23, 2007 – Dr. Anna Lee Tonkovich, manager of the Technology Development Center at Velocys, Inc. received the Inventor of the Year award by the Columbus Technology Council as part of their annual Top Contributors to the Advancement of Technology (TopCAT) Awards. Presented by TechColumbus, the TopCAT Awards recognize outstanding achievement in all aspects of technology from life sciences, IT, manufacturing, and advanced logistics.

When asked about being named Inventor of the Year, Dr. Tonkovich was quick to recognize her co-workers by saying that “receiving this award is truly an endorsement of the hard work and creativity of the entire team at Velocys.” Dr. Tonkovich, a pioneer in the field of microchannel technology, holds a Bachelor of Science and PhD in Chemical Engineering from University of Rochester and University of Minnesota respectively. After receiving her doctorate, she worked at the Battelle operated Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington. At PNNL, as it is known, Dr. Tonkovich led multiple development efforts including the R&D 100 winning Compact Fuel Vaporizer project, which is one of the earliest commercial applications of microchannel technology. She holds 40 issued US patents in this field, including nine issued in 2006.

The Inventor of the Year, and other TopCAT awards were selected from many entries, and presented at an award dinner held on January 18 at the Columbus Convention Center.

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About Velocys

Velocys, Inc. is coupling advances in microchannel reactors with novel catalysts to create products that far surpass the performance of currently available systems. Velocys, a subsidiary of Battelle Memorial Institute, was launched in 2001 and has already developed a portfolio of 60 patents and received \$85 million of investment from industry leading partners, including Dow Chemical. Velocys is headquartered near Plain City, Ohio. For more information, visit www.velocys.com.

About TechColumbus

TechColumbus is a membership led, non-profit organization of technology-based companies in the central Ohio region. The leadership is provided by a board of Trustees that is representative of technology businesses in central Ohio. TechColumbus is focused on assisting member companies to develop into high performance organizations and/or provide products and services to such organizations. TechColumbus is financed primarily by member dues, contributions, and program income.