



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Applied Composites, an AE Industrial Partners Portfolio Company, Acquires San Diego Composites**

SAN DIEGO, CA – February 27, 2018 — Applied Composites Holdings, LLC (“Applied Composites”), announced today that it has acquired San Diego Composites, Inc. (“SDC”). Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Applied Composites, formerly known as AC&A Holdings, is a leading aerospace and defense composites supplier comprised of AC&A Enterprises, LLC (“AC&A”), Applied Composites Engineering, Inc. (“ACE”), and Applied Composite Structures, Inc. (“ACS”, formerly known as EnCore Composite Structures). SDC is Applied Composites’ third acquisition in the past four months. Applied Composites is a portfolio company of AE Industrial Partners, LP (“AEI”), a private equity investor specializing in aerospace & defense, power generation, and specialty industrial companies.

SDC is a highly accomplished composites supplier dedicated to the design, engineering, development and production of composite hardware and systems for the aerospace, space, and defense industries. Located in a 70,000 square foot facility in San Diego, CA, SDC produces large complex composite structures on mission critical programs ranging from NASA’s Orion spacecraft to missile systems for Raytheon.

“The addition of SDC to our composites platform adds significant engineering talent and unique capabilities in the design and production of large composite structures,” said Bill Boisture, Chairman of the Board of Applied Composites and Operating Partner of AEI. “Applied Composites has the scale, capacity, and capabilities to provide our customers an integrated solution from design and engineering through tooling manufacturing, component production, and complex assembly. We are pleased to welcome SDC to the exceptional composites platform we are building.”

“Joining Applied Composites is an ideal strategic fit and natural next step in the progression and growth of our business,” said Rob Kolozs, co-founder and CEO of SDC. “Having worked with AC&A for years as trusted partners, we are excited to formalize that partnership by joining the Applied Composites team. This platform company brings together a powerful portfolio of people and capabilities that will allow us to deliver even greater value to our customers.”

Kirkland & Ellis LLP served as legal advisor and Berkeley Research Group, LLC served as financial advisor to AEI. Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP served as legal advisor to SDC.

### **About Applied Composites**

Applied Composites is a leading provider of complex composite components, assemblies, engineering, and tooling to the aerospace, defense, and specialty automobile markets. Applied Composites was formed through AEI's acquisitions of AC&A in 2016, ACE in 2017, ACS in 2017, and SDC in 2018. Operating out of approximately 360,000 square feet across four facilities, Applied Composites is widely recognized as a leading supplier of advanced composite solutions for airframes, spacecraft, rotorcraft, UAVs, auxiliary power units, nacelle structures, missile canisters, and wings with expanding content on many high growth aerospace and defense platforms. For more information, please visit [www.acamfg.com](http://www.acamfg.com), [www.appliedcomposites.com](http://www.appliedcomposites.com), [www.encoregroup.aero/composite-structures-3](http://www.encoregroup.aero/composite-structures-3), or [www.sdcomposites.com](http://www.sdcomposites.com).

### **About AE Industrial Partners**

AE Industrial Partners is a leading private equity firm specializing in control-oriented investments in aerospace & defense, power generation, and specialty industrial businesses. AEI invests in market-leading companies that can benefit from its deep operating experience, industry knowledge, and relationships. Learn more at [www.aeroequity.com](http://www.aeroequity.com)

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