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Contact: Anita Shum, Marketing Director

Advanced Structural Technologies, Inc.

p: 805.204.9148

e: [ashum@astforgetech.com](mailto:ashum@astforgetech.com)

### **Advanced Structural Technologies Announces Resumption of \$17 million contract for Abrams' aluminum road wheel inserts**

*Oxnard, CA:* Advanced Structural Technologies, Inc. (AST) today announced that it has been given a delivery order to continue work on the \$17 million contract it was awarded by the U.S. Army for Abrams' aluminum road wheel inserts.

The original contract was awarded in October 2019 and AST has delivered nearly 29,000 wheels to the U.S. Military for the M1 Abrams tanks. The Army has given orders to resume production for the remaining 9,700 road wheel inserts.

The M1 Abrams tank can reach a maximum speed of approximately 68km/h with a maximum cruising range of 426 km. The torsion bar suspension of the M1A1 Abrams consists of each side of seven road wheels with rotary shock-absorbers at the first, second and seventh road-wheel stations. All this power must rely on what are known as "road wheels," which are mounted on the Abrams before the tank's track is installed.<sup>1</sup>

Aluminum inserts are used to resist corrosion and creep at the bolted interfaces between the component and the vehicle.<sup>2</sup>

For the modern military powers of the world, strength must meet mobility and durability. This is especially true for vehicles operating in extremely hostile conditions. Without these properties, military vehicles and the people they protect are exposed to high risk. Often the mechanical properties of the vehicle are the difference between life and death.<sup>3</sup>



*"We are honored that the U.S. Army has entrusted us with providing the Abrams' tank road wheel inserts to help in the crucial work that our military men and women do each day to protect our country", says Rob Melsness, CEO for Advanced Structural Technologies.*

### **About Advanced Structural Technologies, Inc.**

Advanced Structural Technologies, Inc. is a world-leading manufacturer, specializing in rotary forging, metal spinning, and flowforming aluminum, and other alloys into complex shapes.

With locations in Camarillo and Oxnard, California, AST has over 150,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of manufacturing facilities. With over 20 years of experience, AST is a world leader in space/aerospace, and forged wheels for the automotive aftermarket and military wheel applications.

Using its vast experience and knowledge in metalforming, AST has expanded into the alternative energy market with seamless, customizable diameter liners/cylinders. Known for its expertise in forging complex shapes that are single-piece, AST products are used by world-renown companies for their various applications.

AST offers a full range of engineering and manufacturing capabilities, which enables them to innovate and maintain the top quality and excellence that AST customers can count on.

For more information, please visit [www.ASTforgetech.com](http://www.ASTforgetech.com)