



NEWS RELEASE
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FRANK OTTO NAMED NEW PRESIDENT OF LIFT

West Bethpage, NY January 29, 2010 -- The Board of Directors of the Long Island Forum for Technology (LIFT) and its sister project the Applied Science Center of Innovation and Excellence in Homeland Security (COIE) are pleased to announce the appointment of Frank Otto as its new President.

Mr. Otto, a resident of Wading River, had been serving as the Chairman of the Board of LIFT, as well as, President of the Board of the COIE. He replaces the late C. Kenneth Morrelly LIFTs' long time President who passed away suddenly on October 1, 2009.

Joe Garone, the Chairman of the Search Committee, said "LIFT is a dynamic force for technology based economic development in the region and with the launch of the COIE we look forward to playing our role in strengthening and growing Long Island's manufacturing and technology business base. We are thrilled that a man of Mr. Otto's credentials and capabilities has stepped forward to lead LIFT & the COIE in meeting these challenges."

In addition to having served as the Chairman of LIFT, Mr. Otto is a long time fixture in the defense and aerospace industry in the region. He has held a number of senior level management positions for both EDO Corp, now a part of ITT and Comtech Telecommunications Corp. He holds both a Bachelors and Masters Degree's from Stony Brook University and was recently awarded their distinguished Alumni Award.

New York State Senate Republican Leader Dean G. Skelos said, "I applaud the Long Island Forum for Technology for selecting Frank Otto as its next President. Frank Otto is a leader of the region's business community and an inspired choice who will ensure that LIFT continues to provide Long Island businesses with the tools they need to succeed."

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Mr. Otto will take up his new position on February 15, 2010 coinciding with the relocation of LIFT's offices to the COIE, 510 Grumman Rd., West Bethpage. Bill Wahlig will remain as the Executive Director of LIFT. LIFT serves the region as the NYSTAR designated Regional Technology Development Center and manages the 13N Workforce Development Program.

LIFT is the 30-year-old premier technology organization and is the State's Regional Technology Development Center for Long Island. LIFT supports the defense and aerospace, medical device/healthcare, homeland security, energy, information technology and manufacturing clusters of the Long Island economy. LIFT provides Long Island businesses with networking opportunities, access to enabling technologies, hands-on assistance and a wide range of programs directed at creating an environment for innovation, lowering the cost of operations and increasing growth, focused on creating Long Island's future.

For more information on LIFT please call 631-969-3700 or visit www.lift.org.

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