

A "Carbon Valley" for Coal

Randall Atkins- Chairman & Chief Executive, Ramaco Carbon, LLC
New York Mining Club, October 2018

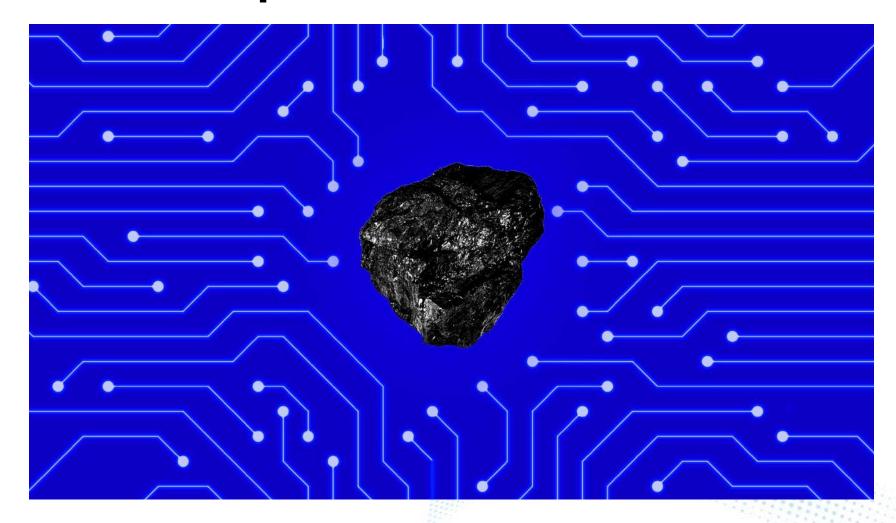


Does Coal Have a Future?

- The jury is out... Thermal Coal may not prevail against renewables and gas in the "race to the bottom" as the cheapest base load fuel for power generation.
- Yet, the United States has the world's <u>largest</u> and <u>cheapest</u> coal reserves.
- The Problem-Currently, 95% of all coal produced worldwide is burned for power generation.
- Only 5% is used to make higher value products, think met coal for steel. Met coal sells for a higher price, currently almost ~20x PRB coal prices.



Perhaps Coal Is the Future?





Coal might be the Functional Equivalent of the Internet for Advanced Materials and Products

The Opportunity:

Coal is the cheapest source of carbon. But most carbon products are expensive.

Why? They now come from petroleum.

A ton of Coal and Petroleum each contain roughly 75% carbon by weight. A ton of PRB coal costs \$12.

A "No-brainer"... Let's use carbon from coal.

The Objective:

- So... use "Carbon from Coal" as the low cost "Disruptor" for making advanced materials using advanced manufacturing
 - Think of coal like the internet.... it can be used to achieve low cost disruption on a massive scale.





The Road Map:

- Create an **Disruptive Platform** to develop carbon product uses which have high margins... but that also requires large volumes of coal as the basic carbon feedstock.
 Think thermal coal priced like met, because of end use margins....
- The Result- An innovative higher tech future for the coal industry, independent of power trends and related environmental issues.
 - Disruptive Perhaps....



Positive Disruption



INNOVATION

DISRUPTION



DOING THE SAME THINGS A BIT BETTER DOING NEW

MAKING THINGS THAT MAKE THE OLD THINGS OBSOLETE



Carbon... the "Secret Agent" of *Mass Disruption*

Carbon is becoming the dominant "advanced material" think carbon fiber, graphene, graphite and carbon resins.
Today most carbon products are derived from petroleum precursors. If made from coal there is a potential 20x cost savings in basic feedstock.
If these advanced materials are made for less from coal, this could be vastly disruptive. They could replace or enhance metals (i.e. steel, aluminum,) and basic building materials (i.e. cement, asphalt, rebar, roof shingles).
Carbon also has applications in chemicals , and even life sciences .
All of these are fast-growing, game changing uses, and can require tremendous volumes of coal. In some cases think 100 million tons+ per use. The US mined 725 million tons in 2017.
A few new uses creates a demand inflection point for the industry.



Who We Are

Ramaco Coal, founded in 2011, is a coal-based conglomerate with operations in five coal producing states, and three separate companies:

- Ramaco Resources, Inc. (NASDAQ –METC): A public met coal producer. In 2017 became the first new coal IPO in the U.S. in a decade. Opened five new met coal mines in the past 12 months. Operations in West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Projected full annual production of approximately 4+ million tons of high quality/low cost metallurgical coal. www.ramacoresources.com.
- Ramaco Royalty, LP: A private company that owns approximately 200 million tons of metallurgical coal reserves in Central Appalachia.
- Ramaco Carbon, LLC: A private Wyoming-based company focused on "Coal to Products." www.ramacocarbon.com.



Ramaco Carbon A Vertically Integrated Coal Tech Company

Ramaco Carbon is the first pure "**Coal-Tech**" company. We are the **only strategic coal group** pursuing a vertically integrated resource, technology research and manufacturing based approach to incubate "**Coal to Products**". Our operations are:

- □ **COAL RESERVE: Brook Mine,** with 1.1 billion tons of coal resource on a 15,000 acre site six miles north of Sheridan, WY. Now under final permit review.
- RESEARCH PARK (iCAM Carbon Advanced Materials Center): Breaking ground this summer. The iCAM will house national laboratories, university and private research groups and strategic manufacturing partners. We will conduct applied research to commercialize coal-based carbon products. Bench to pilot stage.
- INDUSTRIAL PARK (Wyoming iPark): A 100+ acre "coal to products" minemouth industrial park. Plants will use research from the iCAM, coal from the Brook Mine and manufacture advanced carbon products.





The "iCAM": Carbon Advanced Materials Center



Partners

- Ramaco is privileged to be working with some of the top U.S. research institutes, universities, and strategic groups, who form our core research and development team.
- Ramaco has been asked to chair a White Paper from the National Coal Council to the Dept. of Energy requested by Secretary Rick Perry on "New Markets for Coal to Products". The report will be delivered in April 2019.
- Some partners are:
 - National Energy Technology Laboratory
 - Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 - MIT- The Grossman Materials Group
 - Fluor Corporation
 - Carbon, Inc.
 - Univ. of Illinois-Chicago
 - Western Research Institute
 - > Southern Research Institute
- ☐ Members of this group and other industry partners, are involved on a U.S. Department of Energy grant to develop coal as a low cost precursor for carbon fiber to be used in vehicles. We call it "Coal to Cars."

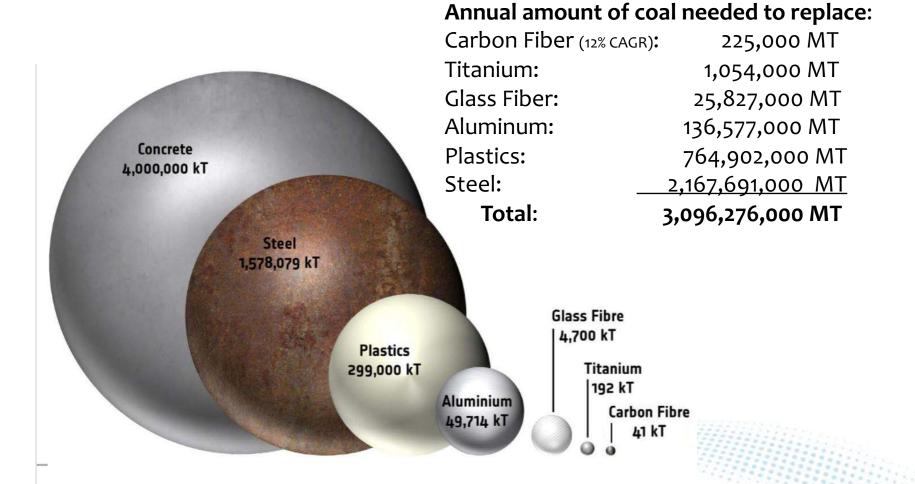


Our Focus

- ☐ Ramaco is focusing on four broad uses:
 - 1) Coal to Carbon Fiber
 - 2) Coal to Carbon Building Products
 - 3) Coal to Carbon Advanced Materials
 - 4) <u>Coal to Medical Technology Products</u>
- We seek uses that marry advanced materials and advanced manufacturing technologies.
- ☐ These uses have a higher margin value proposition and can require large coal volumes.
- ☐ The Key: Displace petroleum as the preferred lower cost carbon feedstock.



Material Displacement Opportunities are Huge





Play Smart ... to the Advantages of Coal

- ☐ Coal's Potential is to make Advanced Materials that are Stronger and Lighter... and Cheaper.
- ☐ Example-Carbon Fibers
 - Carbon fiber is 50% the weight of <u>aluminum</u> but 4X as strong
 - Carbon fiber is only 25% the weight of <u>steel</u> but 2X as strong
- ☐ The "Key" to Coal's Advantage... is cost. Materials from coal can be made cheaper, than from petroleum.
- The way to start may actually be to go..."Back to the Future"

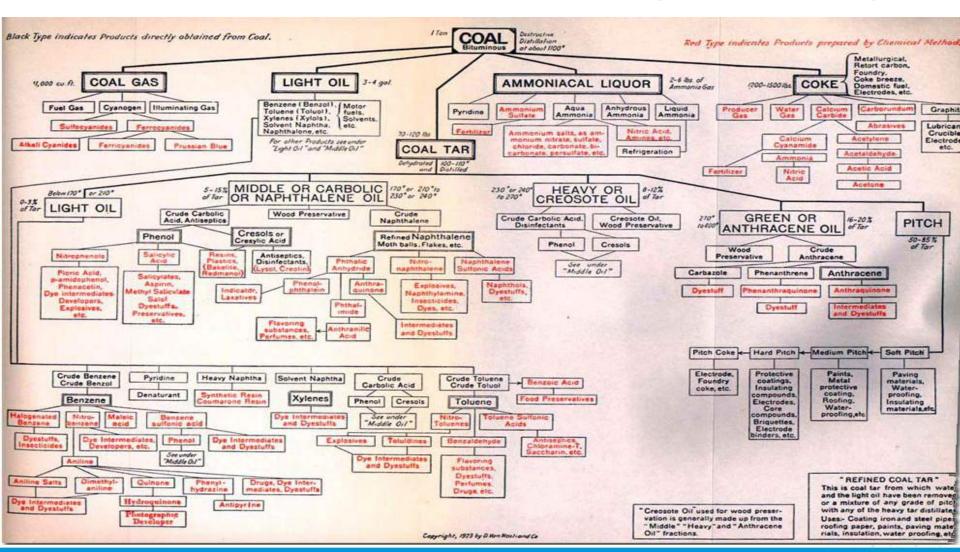


Back to the Future with Coal





Your Grand Dad's Coal Tree (circa 1923)



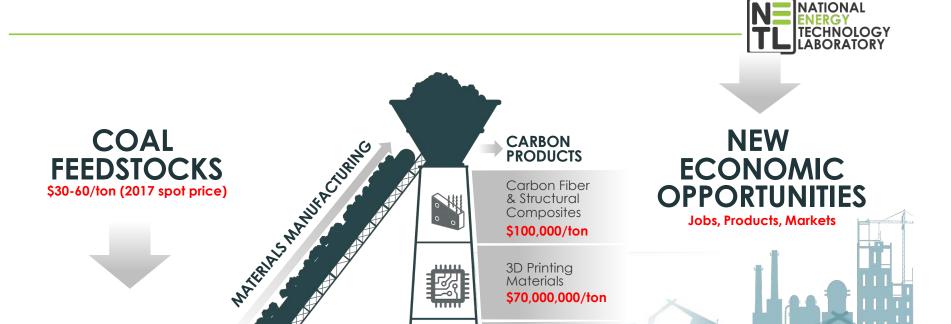


The New Coal Products Tree ethanol carbon building capture materials value-added heat and products power Coal Mine mesoporous carbon thermal activated Coal "Distillery" conduction carbon graphene nuclear graphite thermal insulation building and construction materials metallurgical coal carbon Electrodes (Li-ion electronic fibers batteries) Oak Ridge Labscomponents

Lara-Curzio et al. (2016)



The Margin Multiplier of Advanced Manufacturing



Carbon Nanomaterials \$100,000,000/ton



1



Coal to Carbon Fiber

Carbon Fiber is used today, with reinforced plastics (**CFRP**), to displace steel and aluminum **everywhere** where "**light weighting**" <u>is</u> important, and cost <u>is not</u>. Examples include:

- Fishing rods, bikes, golf shafts, tennis racquets
- ➤ 40% of commercial airliners, 31% of fighter jets

THE PROBLEM IS COST: Today, carbon fiber is 8x more expensive than steel and 2x more expensive than aluminum.

THE REASON IS PETROLEUM: Carbon fiber precursor currently comes from **petroleum.** The cost is about \$20+ per pound.

If through R&D we can drop the price of carbon fiber precursor below \$5 per pound, it is game over. Carbon Fiber replaces steel and aluminum.



Coal to Cars

Of roughly 100 million vehicles made each year, carbon fiber is used in less than 100,000. **The barrier is carbon fiber's high cost**.

☐ We need to drive the price of the coal-based precursor beneath the "tipping point." Carbon fiber then becomes an affordable alternative to steel.

Carbon fiber cars then move from a niche market to mass market.



Coal to Cars...The Evolution





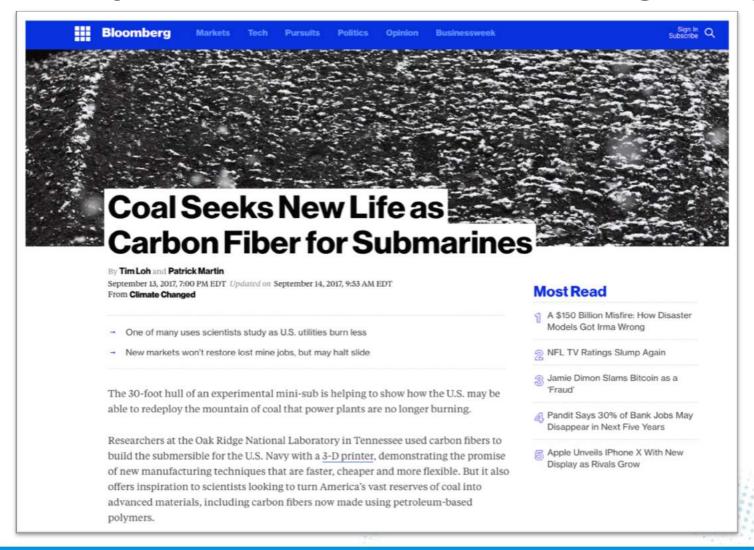
The Ramaco Carbon Fiber Family Car



(aka the "all Carbon Fiber" McLaren Carbon Series LT "Special Edition")



Not Only Cars...The Revolution is Beginning





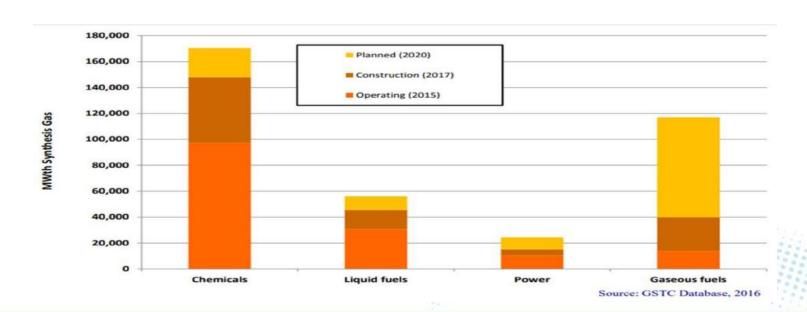
Coal to Building Products

- ☐ Another disruptive market for coal is **"Building Products."**
- Building products have the potential to require greater coal volumes than carbon fiber.
- The range of product uses is practically endless.
 - ➤ **Rebar:** Carbon fiber rebar can provide flexibility to concrete structures, is lighter that current rebar, and does not not rust.
 - Coal Based Asphalt Roof Shingles
 - ➤ Repair Aging Infrastructure (think bridge renovations): Can be molded around existing older infrastructure to provide structural strength. The life span of infrastructure can be increased by 2-3x.



Coal to Chemicals to Advanced Carbon Manufacturing

- Coal to chemicals has been practiced for over 100 years. We are first targeting Resins for 3D Advanced manufacturing.
- ☐ The growth of the olefins markets, as well as price dynamics in coal and other feedstocks (CH4 and CO2) create other new opportunities.
- We are exploring some of these technologies with our partners, specifically Fluor, who was the EPC contractor for coal to liquids projects like Sasol II and III, as well as SR.





Combining Coal with Advanced Manufacturing

- Silicon Valley-based company Carbon, Inc., is revolutionizing 3D printing. Its "CLIP-Continuous Liquid Interface Process" uses ultraviolet light, oxygen and carbon resins to print solid materials.
 Ramaco Carbon has entered into a production partnership with Carbon, Inc. to create advanced carbon-based products, ultimately from coal based carbon resins.
 Ford, BMW and Adidas are already working with Carbon, Inc.
- Ramaco has taken delivery of the most advanced Carbon 3D SpeedCell printers and are currently manufacturing a wide range of products.
- ☐ End game....Make 3D resins from coal.
- This is not "smoke stack" manufacturing...



Wyoming iPark Manufacturing in 3D Printing "Farms"



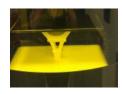


Coal to 3D Printing Cycle





Wyoming iPark SpeedCell Printers









Brook Mine Coal Current PRB Price \$12/Ton









More printers = More Production



3D Printer Farm



The Way Forward

Coal needs its own "Carbon Valley". Ramaco is designing into the future with a Coal Tech "Platform" that represents the first targeted steps by an industry partner.
At Ramaco we are more interested in creating the Platform, than any one Product. Who knows where this will lead.
U.S. is blessed that it has both the resource base and the technological prowess to fundamentally reorient the world's coal industry. We can be the cornerstone of an advanced materials and manufacturing revolution .
Innovation and research is the first step. That is why we are starting with the R&D.
The R&D needs to focus on potential widespread Commercial applications. Aim to use "lots of Coal" at good margins.
Government research support is essential to realizing the scale of the opportunity. The DOE has accepted Coal to Products is a viable alternative use of coal than combustion.
It starts with the lump of coal and the Power of Carbon











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