For Immediate Release
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CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PUSHES OFFSHORE WIND AT MD SENATE HEARING

Century Old Eastern Shore Manufacturer Joins Other Businesses To Support Legislation To Bring Clean Energy and Thousands Of Jobs To Maryland

Annapolis, MD – Cambridge International, which has been manufacturing in Maryland for more than 100 years, testified today before the Maryland Senate Finance Committee in strong support of SB 237 and efforts to unlock the energy and jobs potential of offshore wind.

Cambridge Director of Government Affairs & Business Development Dion Banks, participated in the hearing as part of the Business Coalition for Maryland Offshore Wind, a growing group of businesses that want Maryland to continue its leadership role in the development of the US offshore wind industry. Other Coalition Members testifying included David Lunn for D & T Welding and Roger O'Donnell from Eaton Corporation.

"Cambridge International sees Maryland offshore wind as offering real opportunities to participate in the supply chain for the turbines. Cambridge's focus on cutting edge environmental technologies combined with its century of manufacturing experience positions us to participate at a high level in this initiative which will bring business and jobs to Maryland," said Banks.

He went on to declare: "Even in the face of an uncertain economy, I'm proud that Cambridge International is expanding: last year, we added 35 new green jobs to our existing employee base of more than 400 people --and that's just the beginning: we anticipate even greater job creation as these new products and technologies gain a stronghold.

"We stand ready to work with you to make these new Maryland clean energy jobs a reality."

In his testimony, Banks noted that there are over 8,000 components in a modern wind turbine and many of them are well suited to local supply from Maryland businesses. Moreover, several components, such as towers and foundations for large next-generation turbines are so massive that there are significant cost advantages to manufacturing and assembling as close to the deployment point as possible. This requires investment in port infrastructure that can create job development opportunities as well –a perfect fit for the Port of Baltimore. He also stated that construction activity will require developers to contract for meteorological, oceanographic and ecological resource assessment from Maryland's strong environmental services community, as well as advanced geophysical, geotechnical and marine mapping from Maryland's skilled maritime sciences base. And even after construction, Banks said that ongoing operations and maintenance will provide jobs for many years and will cluster to the nearest available port, likely Ocean City in this case.

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Cambridge International, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of metal belting and wire cloth, recently celebrated its 100-year anniversary. With a heritage that dates back to 1911, Cambridge International is a global industry leader, expanding to include three distinct divisions – Cambridge Engineered Solutions, Cambridge Architectural, and Cambridge Environmental Technologies. Based on Maryland's Eastern Shore, with five manufacturing locations around the world, the company is recognized as a pioneer in engineering and manufacturing, supporting a diverse array of industries. Employing over 400 team members, Cambridge is actively growing and expanding as it continues to develop innovative product solutions to help its customers, and are thusly poised to evolve and grow into the next century.