Yu Zhou, associate professor of mechanical engineering at the recently merged SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering/SUNY Institute of Technology, has been awarded a $100,000 National Science Foundation grant to study fiber-reinforced polymer composites, materials that are both stiff and strong yet lightweight.

The materials have applications in transportation, wind power, energy, aerospace and construction.

“We hope to impact the composite manufacturing industry by providing the first-ever comprehensive capability of quantitative analysis and on-line control to a wide range of composite manufacturing processes, and by providing small and intermediate manufacturers an automated and cost-effective solution to produce composite parts in large volumes,” Zhou said.

Zhou, who joined the faculty at its Utica campus last year, earned his Ph.D in mechanical engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Categories: Manufacturing, Nanotechnology, Technology