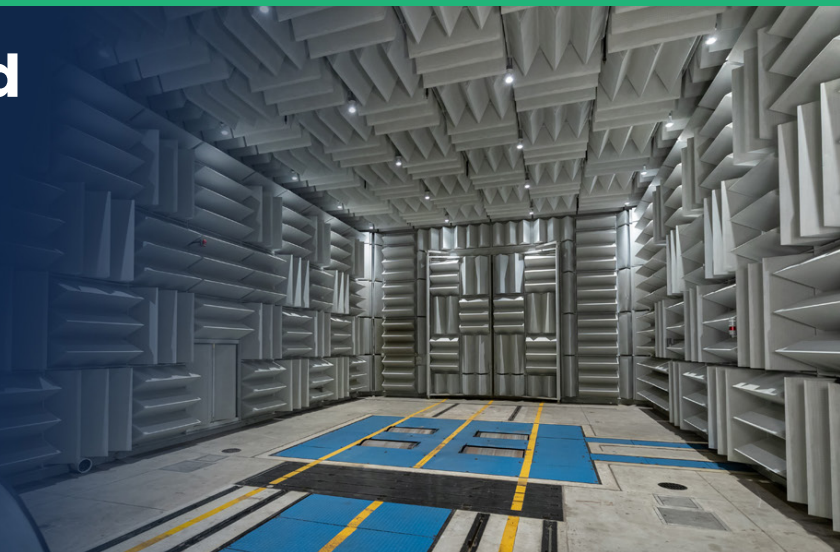


## Welcome to the Blachford Acoustics Laboratory

Our hemi-anechoic chamber equipped with dynamometer was specifically engineered for Class 8 truck testing. The facility also accommodates testing for off-highway equipment and smaller-scale devices. Additionally, our 200-cubic-meter reverberation chamber enables precise acoustic material testing and evaluation.



### Michael Benjamin – VP of Technology & Innovation | QHSE

*CPO, Kellogg School of Business  
M.S. Mechanical Engineering, Oklahoma State University*

Michael Benjamin is an established Products & Innovation executive with a proven track record of driving growth through the development, launch and commercialization of innovative products across various technology and manufacturing sectors, including building products and non-automotive OEM industry. With over 20 years of product leadership experience, he is adept at creating and implementing strategic product plans that align with company goals while collaborating with global teams to bring products to market. Michael has the ability to inspire teams and drive results, making significant contributions to Blachford's growth initiatives.



### Dr. Sam Suh – Acoustics Lab Manager

*Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University*

Dr. Sam Suh oversees the Blachford Acoustics Laboratory, bringing over 20 years of experience in acoustical testing, design validation, and team building. His extensive background in noise control solutions is enhanced by his work with NVH teams at leading companies such as Apple, John Deere, and Cummins. Renowned within the acoustics community, Dr. Suh has held Director and VP-level positions at the Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE). His leadership is instrumental as the laboratory continues to innovate and develop cutting-edge products for OEM customers.



### Dr. Dan Duffy – Technology Development Manager

*Ph.D. Chemistry, University of Massachusetts*

Dr. Dan Duffy brings over 20 years of industrial experience, specializing in physical chemistry, polymer, colloids, materials science, and chemical engineering. He has worked with renowned companies, focusing on innovative new product research and development projects for adhesives and semiconductor assembly materials. Dr. Duffy is committed to advancing technology and innovation, contributing to the development of products that meet current market demands while anticipating future needs of noise control in heavy transportation, agricultural, and industrial applications.



### David Neihguk – Acoustics Engineer

*Ph.D. Candidate, University of Kentucky*

David Neihguk specializes in advanced NVH testing and simulation techniques, leveraging his extensive experience in the railway and automotive sectors with organizations like Alstom Transport, Bombardier Transportation, and Mahindra & Mahindra. His deep understanding of customer needs, combined with a proven track record of solving complex NVH challenges, makes him a valuable asset to Blachford. David is dedicated to providing science-based solutions that help customers achieve their acoustic goals and contribute to the advancement of industry standards.



## Ethan Trudick – Rubber Chemist

*B.S. Chemical Engineering, The University of Akron*

Ethan Trudick brings over 7 years of rubber compounding experience to the Blachford Acoustics team. His extensive background encompasses various polymer systems and spans multiple industries, including automotive, marine, and construction. At Blachford, Ethan is dedicated to developing new and innovative rubber compounds that not only meet market needs but also drive advancements in product performance and sustainability.



## Dr. Alex Jones – Materials Engineer

*Ph.D. Polymer Fiber & Textile Science, The University of Georgia*

With nearly 10 years of combined automotive and industrial experience, Dr. Alex Jones specializes in materials science, polymers, and textile chemistry/engineering. His current projects focus on material evaluation and benchmarking, as well as collaborating with suppliers to develop and implement new materials for the public transportation, trucking, and agricultural markets. Dr. Jones is committed to ensuring that his work positively impacts the lives of others, striving to create a quieter, more comfortable, and cleaner world.



## Samuel Romer – Laboratory Research Assistant

Samuel Romer brings over 18 years of experience at Blachford Incorporated, contributing to various departments, including production, shipping and receiving, and quality assurance. Currently, he serves in the Research and Development department at the acoustics laboratory, where his responsibilities encompass preparing advanced polymer formulations, supporting acoustic testing, and maintaining laboratory instrumentation. Samuel also plays a key role in enhancing safety and quality assurance activities across multiple Blachford business units.



## Oliver Piel – Acoustics Lab Assistant

*B.S. Physics, B.A. Philosophy, Wheaton College*

Oliver Piel graduated Wheaton College with a B.S. in Physics & B.A. in Philosophy May 2024. While there, he spent a semester doing lab work in quantum physics & another semester tutoring Thermodynamics. Now at Blachford Acoustics Laboratory, he conducts acoustic material research, as well as standardized and custom testing of acoustic materials & equipment in various industries. He is also responsible for general lab maintenance & upkeep.



## Eric Dutkiewicz – Mechanical Engineer

*B.S. Mechanical Engineering, Michigan State University*

Eric Dutkiewicz graduated from Michigan State University with B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in Dec 2024. He finished his internship at BAE industries in Auburn Hills, MI in the summer of 2024 & developed cost estimation tool and assisted Quality Control. His Senior Design project involved optimizing the durability of a dual-driven intensifier for Eaton Aerospace using NX CAD and FEA. At Blachford Acoustics Laboratory, he works on the mechanical design for various OEM and collaborates with Sales, Engineering & Operations for successful execution of the new projects.

