WHY OHIO?

How the state is powering the next generation of Ceramic manufacturing and innovation



JENNIFER SCHEEL

EXECUTIVE ATTRACTION OFFICER

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MATT DOLAN

CEO

Team NEO

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MARISSA RIEGEL

DIRECTOR OF R&D

SAINT-GOBAIN NORPRO

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NICK BARENDT

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Case Western Reserve University

nab2@case.edu



DANIEL GISSER

FOUNDER & CEO

Tillerline Associates

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MATT DOLAN

Chief Executive Officer | **TEAM NEO**



- BS Political Science / JD
- Served in both the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio State Senate, chairing the Finance Committee in both chambers
- In 2025, Matt led his team to bring 92 business investments that will generate more than 2,900 new jobs, $188 million in annual payroll, $455 million in capital investment and retain approximately 7,200 jobs for the 14-county region.

MARISSA REIGEL

Director of R&D | **SAINT-GOBAIN NORPRO**



- BS / PhD in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering
- Leads the development of ceramic catalyst supports and shaped ceramics for the petrochemical and other industries
- Prior to joining NorPro, Marissa was an R&D execution manager at Savannah River National Laboratory in South Carolina, specializing in the processing and application of nuclear materials.

NICK BARENDT

Assistant Vice President for Research | **CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY**



- BS / MS in Electrical Engineering
- Executive Director at Institute for Smart, Secure and Connected Systems (ISSACS)
- Technical experience combines real-time embedded systems with scalable cloud computing
- Leading NEO-SMART, a multi-sector consortium spanning 18 Northeast Ohio counties to accelerate sustainable smart manufacturing and position the region as a hub for advanced materials innovation.

DANIEL J. GISSER

Founder & CEO | **TILLERLINE ASSOCIATES**



- BA Chemistry / MBA / PhD Chemistry
- Daniel J. Gisser helps entrepreneurs, corporations, and universities win SBIRs and other nondilutive R&D funding
- >30 years of experience in Fortune 100 corporations (Eaton, Kodak), nonprofit research institutes (Parallax Advanced Research, Ohio Aerospace Institute), management consulting (Tillerline and Towpath Collaborations), and non-profit boards (Piano Cleveland, Adoption Network Cleveland)

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