Material Systems Lab Team Launches GM Partnership

The Material Systems Lab (MSL) team headed by Joel P. Clark, Materials Science and Engineering professor, will use their expertise in math-based modeling in a new partnership with General Motors Corp. With a five-year $2 million grant, MSL will co-found the GM-MIT Materials and Manufacturing Systems Analysis Collaborative Research Laboratory (MMSA) to evaluate key emerging material technologies, devise strategies to maximize the return on large capital investments, and develop guidelines for tackling new challenges of the automotive industry.

Clark and GM's Steven W. Holland, director of manufacturing systems research at the GM Research and Development Center in Warren, Mich., will co-direct the laboratory. MIT is one of only nine institutions worldwide to be involved in the prestigious collaborative research laboratory program with GM, the world's largest vehicle manufacturer.