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STUDENT AMBASSADOR NEWS

VOLUME 4, No. 1 APRIL 1999

## 300 Students Participate in METALFORM'99!



Exhibitors at PMA's METALFORM'99 trade show at the Rosemont Convention Center, Rosemont, IL, wel-

comed students from high schools and technical schools at a special Student Day program on Thursday, April 15. Students from as far away as Dubuque, IA, Kalamazoo, MI, and Madison, WI, were treated to an orientation given by industry representatives highlighting career opportunities avail-

able to them in the metalforming industry. Then they went out on the

show floor where they had an up-close look at the metalforming industry with over 500 exhibitors on hand covering nearly 200,000 square feet. This program, organized annually by PMA's Training & Education Committee, continues to grow as more students, teachers, and parents are learning about good careers in manufacturing. Next year's show will be in Nashville, TN, Feb. 13-16. Please contact PMA if you would like information sent to you about next year's Student Day or 2001 back in Chicago.

### SKILL STANDARDS REPORT

*Standards Development*—Qualifying students can now earn a credential for the Metalforming Level I Skill Standards by completing a performance evaluation and achieving a passing score on the written exam. Metalforming Level I covers basic skills and knowledge needed to work in a metalform-

ing facility. It serves as the baseline standard for the Level II (operator) and Level III (setup technician) Skill Standards for the following metalforming processes: Metal Stamping, Metal Spinning, Press Brake, Slide Forming, Roll Forming CNC/NC Punch Press and Laser Cutting. To purchase copies of the Procedures Manual & Credential-

ing Achievement Record and any of the standards listed above contact the Precision Metalforming Association Educational Foundation (PMAEF). To learn about the credentialing exam contact the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) at PO Box 787, Vienna, VA 22183 Telephone: 703/352-4971; fax: 703/352-4991.

## SKILL STANDARDS REPORT (CONT'D)

*Educational Program Certification*—Don't forget that your school can earn NIMS certification if you use the NIMS skill standards as a guideline for your metalworking educational programs. Certification is an excellent way to keep up to date with the latest educational needs and attract students to your programs, while qualifying for discounts on credentialing. Contact NIMS for more information.

## MODELS—WE HAVE MODELS

PMA districts across the country, with the support of PMAEF, are partnering with schools in their areas to provide training needed by their employees and prospective employees.

*Twin Cities*—Minneapolis Community and Technical College is providing training for member companies in the Twin Cities District. A Training Committee made up of industry representatives worked with educators at MCTC to develop a curriculum which addresses the Metalforming Level I Skill Standard as well as some of the Stamping Level II Skill Standard.

*Southern California*—The Southern California District Training Apprenticeship Committee has created an apprenticeship program for press operators and setup technicians and is developing curriculum for a tool & die apprenticeship. This District is partnering with four community colleges in the Los Angeles area to provide the classroom learning, while hands on experience is being completed right at the member companies.

*New England*—A new initiative has just been started by PMA's New England District. It is working with local chapters of the National Tooling & Machining Association and the Jewelry Manufacturers Association to create a partnership with Davies Career and Technical High School, NIST and the Community College of Rhode Island to develop and promote a precision machining technology program. Specific information about these programs is available through PMAEF for industry/education partnership groups throughout the country.

## STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

You are not alone! As a recipient of PMAEF's Student Ambassador Program, your school is one of nearly 6,500 schools across the country which have requested and received the program. Nearly 350,000 students have seen the Careers in Metalforming video.

*Rave Reviews*—And thank you for the high acceptance rate indicated by an audience survey of teachers and guidance counselors who have used the program in their classrooms:

- 97.7% said it raised the students' awareness of job opportunities in the metalforming industry;
- 88.7% of the respondents rated the informational value of the video as excellent or good;
- 86.9% rated its technical content to be excellent or good;
- 80.4% felt the companion flyer, Choices, was well accepted by their students;
- 94.8% intend to use the materials again.

*Need More?*—Please contact PMA Educational Foundation if you need more copies of the Choices flyer or additional "Careers in Metalforming" videos which are sent with the Student Ambassador Program.

## INTERNET SITES

While surfing the net, check out the PMA site, [www.metalforming.com](http://www.metalforming.com), to keep up with what's happening in the metalforming industry concerning training and education and other news, and the NIMS home page, [www.nims-skills.org](http://www.nims-skills.org), for the latest information about all of the metalworking skill standards.

## FEEDBACK, PLEASE

Help us learn from you. Your suggestions and ideas can help us develop and improve tools to meet your needs, the needs of students and trainees, and the needs of the industry. Let us know what you think about articles featured in this newsletter and about any other training and education issue relevant to the metalforming industry.



## APPRENTICE EXCELS IN PENNSYLVANIA PROGRAM

Chuck Fahringer is not an ordinary trainee, but he's also not the product of an ordinary educational program. Chuck began an apprenticeship program in the tool room at New Standard Corporation in York, Pennsylvania, immediately after high school, and is now nearly 2 years through a 4-1/2 year tool & die apprenticeship. His experience with New Standard actually started while still in high school, participating in York County (Pennsylvania) Area Vo-Tech School's Precision Machining Technology Program. Chuck began attending the technical school in the ninth grade; his co-op work program began in the eleventh grade. This program allowed him to attend classes 3 days a week and work 2 days at the company doing machining such as milling and grinding. What makes this program, a Pennsylvania Youth Apprenticeship Program (PYAP), unique? It is the first secondary school program in North America to achieve ISO-9002 certification. What makes Chuck unique? He has a vision of where he wants to go and has taken full advantage of the resources available to him to begin the journey. Throughout this experience, Chuck has learned teamwork and problem solving skills tied in with work ethics and machining skills. John Evans, training manager at New Standard, calls Chuck "a real asset to the tooling department." New Standard is a stakeholder in the PYAP at York County Vo-Tech School and is pleased with its program. Chuck and New Standard anticipate that earning his tool & die papers in 2001 will be only a first step in a growing, successful career in the industry.