

The Apprentice — The Trump Card for the Future

Do you have an apprenticeship program? Do you employ people you refer to as “apprentices?”

FOUNDATION

Do you plan on instituting or reintroducing an apprenticeship system? If you said “yes” to any of these, the PMA Educational Foundation (PMAEF) would like to hear from you!

In light of recent changes to the U.S. Registered Apprenticeship System that provides for more flexibility and accessibility, the foundation is conducting a preliminary scan of what companies are doing or planning regarding apprenticeships (registered or not registered). We would like to know: 1) what job titles, disciplines or trades are involved; 2) how many apprentices have graduated from your program, are currently enrolled in your program or may be enrolled in the near future; 3) how you have set up the training and learning aspects of the program, and 4) how you acknowledge and document “competency.” All information will be considered confidential and will not be shared with any other company, agency or organization.

Information can be submitted by: 1) sending materials that describe your program to PMA Headquarters, Attention: PMAEF—Apprenticeships; 2) sending an e-mail (with attachments if needed) to bbroman@pma.org; or 3) just giving us a call at 216/901-8800 to informally discuss your program or intentions.

At a recent press conference in Washington,



D.C., the former Governor of Michigan and NAM President/CEO John Engler stated, “At a time when millions of Americans face unemployment, manufacturing jobs with excellent salaries—and across all skill levels and sectors—are unfilled because of the lack of qualified applicants. These tough economic times call for clear pathways to skills in demand to help new and transitioning workers prepare for good manufacturing jobs.”

Donald A. McCabe, senior vice president, Corning Inc., went on to say, “Even in this economic downturn, the skills of our workforce remain a top strategic priority and the most important driver of business success. Today’s workforce requires more education and higher level skills due to the growing technical demands of the modern manufacturing workplace.”

If you would like to discuss the opportunities in advancing apprenticeships into the 21st century or setting up a fast-track, competency-based training program, contact Bruce Broman at PMAEF or log onto www.workingsolutions4u.org.

Support the Industry by Supporting the PMAEF Silent Auction

Established in 1996 to address the shortage of workforce skills, the PMA Educational Foundation (PMAEF) brings strong focus on the training and educational needs of the metalforming community. You may help in this endeavor by bidding on one of the many items up for auction in the PMAEF Silent Auction at <http://pmaef.cmarket.com>. This year’s fundraising auction offers a variety of business and personal items, with all proceeds going to further industry education and training.

PMAEF has awarded nearly \$1 million in grants to the industry. As a result, curriculum and opera-

tor training have been developed, students have been informed and recruited to the metalforming industry, and metalforming career opportunity awareness has risen.

Bidding on any of the items on the auction slate shows your support for the future of the industry. The online auction opens on Sunday, April 26 in conjunction with the first annual Technical Conference held in Cleveland, OH. Join the fun and support your industry’s Educational Foundation.

Contact Amy Thacker at 216/901-8800 or athacker@pma.org with questions.



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Training & Education

for the Metalforming Industry