

# 2007 Silent Auction Available Online

For the first time, the PMA Educational Foundation (PMAEF) Silent Auction will be opened to online bidders at [www.pmaef.org](http://www.pmaef.org). PMA members, METALFORM exhibitors, *MetalForming* magazine subscribers and the general public alike have an opportunity to support the foundation by bidding on items in the PMAEF auction catalog. Vacation packages, tickets to sporting events, industry equipment and a black cherry Gerstner Legacy Chest are just some of the items available on the 2007 auction slate.

The online auction opens on February 26 and will continue through March 28. As always, bidding will also take place at PMA's booth at the METAL-

FORM trade show in Rosemont, IL, on March 25-28. Be on the lookout for more information about placing a winning bid.

The foundation is still accepting auction items. Those interested in donating to the 2007 auction should contact Anne Cunningham at 216/901-8800 or [acunningham@pma.org](mailto:acunningham@pma.org).

Established in 1996 to address the shortage of workforce skills, PMAEF brings strong focus to the training and educational needs of the metalforming community. The money raised through the silent auction will be used to award grants to industry programs that promote metalforming as a career or develop training for incumbent workers.

## Educational Foundation Awards \$40,000 in Grants

PMA's Educational Foundation (PMAEF) has awarded a total of \$40,000 in grants to three programs created to enhance the U.S. metalforming workforce. The PMAEF trustees awarded:

- \$15,000 to the WIRE-Net School-to-Career Initiative: Where Futures Matter. Through this Cleveland-based program, local high school students receive hands-on training in precision-machining technology so that they experience first-hand the dynamic and financially rewarding career opportunities available in the metalforming industry.
- \$10,000 to McHenry County College in Crystal Lake, IL. The PMAEF grant will help underwrite the start-up costs of equipment for a 40-hour basic welding skills boot camp that will consist of 10 sessions serving at least 60 students. A key objective of the program is to reduce the number of open welding positions in the county by more than 50 percent.
- \$15,000 to Cuyahoga Community College

(Tri-C) in Cleveland, OH. The PMAEF grant will help fund Tri-C's Build a Cannon program, allowing 100 high school students to earn free college credit while simultaneously satisfying high school graduation requirements. Each student will be given materials to build a cannon, which will introduce them to the high-tech world of modern manufacturing and allow them to get a jumpstart on pursuing a career in the industry.

PMAEF accepts requests for funding from organizations whose initiatives, programs and services promote, enhance and/or support the development of a metalforming workforce in the United States. Throughout the past five years, PMAEF grants have averaged \$10,000. The deadline to submit applications for the next grant cycle is March 1, 2007. Interested parties can download an application at [www.pmaef.org](http://www.pmaef.org) or contact Anne Cunningham at 216/901-8800 or [acunningham@pma.org](mailto:acunningham@pma.org).

## Press Operator Training Now Available on DVD

PMA's Stamping Press Operator and Die Setter training systems are available on DVD. This popular learning system used by more than 300 companies is now adaptable to use on personal computers or anywhere a DVD can be played. Increase productivity, assure safety and improve part quality with the Press Operator and Die Setter training system. Companies that



already own the VHS version of the system can take advantage of special upgrade pricing. For ordering information, please contact Anne Cunningham at 216/901-8800 or [acunningham@pma.org](mailto:acunningham@pma.org). Training systems in DVD format are available for coil-fed, manually fed, and coil- and manually fed presses. The Spanish coil-fed training system is also available on DVD.



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### NEWS & NOTES

[www.pmaef.org](http://www.pmaef.org)

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