

14th Annual Trainers Roundtable Set for October 21-22

If you manage and/or implement training at your company, this is your once-a-year opportunity to meet face-to-face with peers who have the same responsibilities and challenges you encounter every day. PMA's 14th Annual Trainers Roundtable will be held October 21-22 at PMA headquarters in Cleveland, OH.

The program will begin with a networking dinner and agenda-building session on the evening of October 21. Chuck Guiste, training director at Penn United Technologies, Inc., Saxonburg, PA, will describe the company's outstanding training program for which it was selected the 2008 winner of PMA's A.R. Hedberg Training & Education Award of Excellence. Penn United has created the Learning Institute for the Growth of High Technology (L.I.G.H.T.) training center to train its employees as well as employees of other local manufacturers. Guiste will discuss the company's state-approved apprenticeship programs for tool and die makers, press technicians, quality assurance technicians, precision machinists and precision grinders and its

wide array of other employee training and success stories.

Attendees will refine the agenda that evening at an agenda-building session to make certain their most important interests are prioritized and discussed. Discussion items at past roundtables have included training for skilled trades/apprenticeships/pay-for-skills, computer-based training/e-learning, training assessment/needs analysis, measuring ROI for training, leadership training, funding sources, knowledge management, learning management, training for innovation, health and safety training, lean manufacturing/six sigma training and quality system audit preparation.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to improve your training procedures and processes, network with industry peers, discuss and investigate ideas and experiences, and continue the dialogue throughout the year via PMA's Training E-mail Discussion Group. Contact Amy Thacker at 216/901-8800 or athacker@pma.org to learn more about this event.

PMAEF Grant Helps Training Program Expand in the Twin Cities

With the help of a PMA Educational Foundation grant award, the Twin Cities District has seen its M-Powered program successfully replicated in Saint Paul through the Metropolitan Manufacturing Sector Initiative (MMSI). M-Powered began in 2004 as a collaborative effort between Hennepin Community College, HIRED and the PMA Twin Cities District to prepare workers for high-paying, skilled jobs in the metal-forming industry. The new MMSI initiative brings a similar program to the east side of the Twin Cities Metro area.

In its pilot year, the MMSI has had its first 46

students complete "Manufacturing 101" at Anoka Technical College and Saint Paul College. Through the strong support of local manufacturing partners, 34 students have moved into the on-the-job training phase of the program. The program began with nine manufacturing partners who collaborated with MMSI, but interest in the program has brought that number to 20 employers. The companies have dedicated their entry-level, on-the-job training opportunities to these students.

Contact Amy Thacker at 216/901-8800 or athacker@pma.org for more information.

NIMS Holds Student Summit at IMTS

At the 2008 IMTS show, the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) hosted a student summit to generate enthusiasm in young people for precision manufacturing. More than 7,000 students attended the event and witnessed the latest manufacturing technology displayed on the show floor.

A focal point of the NIMS Student Summit was a Career Development Center (CDC), which included interactive exhibits from colleges and universities, companies and their HR representatives, and industry associations. All students also experienced an

event orientation, during which they heard from young professionals in the industry. Each student received a Career Resource CD-ROM that contains important industry-related career information. New in 2008, graduating high school and college students could bring their resumes to the CDC for participating companies to review for entry-level job openings.

The PMA Educational Foundation is a founding stakeholder in NIMS and a supporter of the Student Summit. For more information about NIMS, contact Dave Sansone at 216/901-8800 or dsansone@pma.org.



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