

SkillsUSA Highlights Student Skills

The PMA Educational Foundation once again sponsored the Precision Machining Technology competition at SkillsUSA, held June 25-27 in Kansas City, MO.

SkillsUSA is a national competition that brings together contestants from high school and post-secondary technical education programs ranging from culinary arts and cosmetology to construction and precision machining. Participants who survived regional and state competitions advanced to Kansas City for the "Super Bowl" of skills.

The Precision Machining Technology competition, based on the NIMS Level I and Level II Skill Standards, brought together 83 winners from 43 states who competed over two days in Kansas City. The first day featured a two-hour written NIMS-based assessment, covering engineering drawing interpretation, GD&T, technical math, machining and metalforming practices, use of precision measuring hand tools and ability to communicate verbally using proper industry terminology. On the second day contestants competed in an eight-hour



Students compete in the precision machining technology competition.

hands-on assessment test in which they produced parts-to-print in technologies including CNC turning, CNC milling, manual milling, turning, process control and benchwork.

Congratulations to this year's gold medal winners, Nicholas Shepley of Saint Clair Technical High School, Marysville, MI, in the secondary school competition and Ryan Watson of Boise State (Idaho) University in the post-secondary competition.

For more information, contact Dave Sansone at 216/901-8800 or dsansone@pma.org.

PMAEF Offers Web-Based Learning for Management-Level Employees

The PMA Educational Foundation (PMAEF) has partnered with KRM Information Services and CRK Interactive to offer new online learning opportunities for metalforming companies to train their management staffs. PMA members receive significant discounts from both providers.

KRM's online courses are developed by such well-respected organizations as Kiplinger Washington Editors, Harvard Business School and others. The courses target topics and issues that will enhance the skills and knowledge of senior management, customer service, sales and marketing, financial services, human resources and workforce development staff. Several courses are available each month and can be accessed one of two ways: live with an interactive question and answer period, or through archived recordings. Access the KRM

webinar schedule at www.krm.com/pma.

CRK Interactive provides an online subscription to a leadership training curriculum through a series of online courses. Designed for managers, team leaders, supervisors and trainers, courses focus on how to effectively coach and interact with staff to maximize performance, create a motivated workforce, discuss performance issues with employees, conduct effective interviews and learn successful negotiation skills.

With the ever-present demand for more education at the managerial level and the increased cost of travel and employee time, these programs can help metalforming companies meet their employees' education needs cost-effectively and efficiently. For more information about these training opportunities, contact Michelle Underwood at 216/901-8800 or munderwood@pma.org.



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At Work

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Training & Education for the Metalforming Industry