

SFMA News

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A monthly newsletter

Job Training Vital

On June 8, 2011, President Obama announced a call to action to employers and community colleges to work together to connect students with jobs. The Manufacturing Institute and the National Association of Manufacturers announced the goal of credentialing 500,000 community college students with skills certifications aligned to manufacturers' hiring needs.

As you may or may not know, SFMA's Manufacturing Training Institute has been actively involved in training one of the four national certifications in NAM's Skills Certification System, the MSSC's Certified Production Technician. In addition, SFMA has advocated for the adoption of the Associate of Science Engineering Technology degrees with our State College partners and the adoption of articulation agreements whereby college credit is given to those individuals who successfully

complete the course work and pass the Certified Production Technician certification exams. Florida is leading the nation in implementing this type of statewide initiative and SFMA is providing the leadership in introducing these programs to South Florida.

More information and pertinent links below:

[NAM Press Statement:](#)

[The Manufacturing Institute's press release](#) (Click download to view)

[White House Fact sheet](#)

To access more information regarding these exciting programs, please visit the SFMA website at www.sfma.org, or contact either Dennis Battistella, SFMA Director of Workforce Development or Phil Centonze, SFMA Director of Training.

Manufacturing: New Life

PAUL GRASSO, In Perspective

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the Advanced Manufacturing Symposium hosted by The Workforce Development Institute (WDI). The symposium was enlightening. It put the concept of "advanced manufacturing" in perspective relative

to what is happening worldwide, and it pointed out the need to examine how we might be training people for high-skill, high-wage jobs in manufacturing. While there isn't yet a comprehensive, widely accepted definition of Advanced Manufacturing, there are strong commonalities within the varying definitions. The definitions all refer to either manufacturing "high-tech innovative technology," or how manufacturers use technology to improve products or processes that

take manufacturing operations to another level; [read more.](#)

SFMA's Manufacturing Institute has certified instructors to train unemployed and incumbent workers to help them earn this national certification and a pathway to a post-secondary education.. Contact dennisb@sfma.org for more information.