



Connecticut Advanced Manufacturing Initiative

Making A Difference Through Career-Driven Training

August 2015



NEW! Precision Sheet Metal Fabrication Certificate

Three Rivers Community College will launch their new Precision Sheet Metal Fabrication certificate program in October 2015, which combines both non-credit and credit coursework. The program will begin with a non-credit pre-manufacturing program, which will include four weeks of coursework: Introduction to Sheet Metal Fabrication Careers, Manufacturing Math, Introduction to Blueprint Reading, Metrology and Introduction to Lean Manufacturing. Students will begin the 45-credit, two-semester portion of the program in January 2016, which will coincide with the completion of their fully renovated Advanced Manufacturing facility. Continuing coursework will focus on areas such as occupational skills, sheet metal process and tools, quality control, layout, welding and blueprint reading. After students complete the program, they will have the option to continue and complete a third-semester certificate in one of two areas: Advanced Sheet Metal Fabrication or Advanced Welding. For those students that are interested in pursuing a two-year degree, coursework in this program will contribute to degree-related coursework in the College of Technology throughout the Connecticut Community College System.

The Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Association (EAMA) has played an essential role in the development of the new certificate program, contributing to the new renovation designs, selecting equipment and providing feedback about the curriculum content.

On August 15, 2015, Three Rivers held their first official open house event, which was well attended by prospective students and parents. Industry partners, Sound Manufacturing, Electric Boat, Airgas, Acme Wire and Whitcraft LLC, were all present. They lent their support by speaking with students about advanced manufacturing fields, highlighting their particular industry sector and brought hands-on manufacturing tools and final products to the event. Jodi Calvert, Director of Learning Initiatives at Three Rivers, and interim advanced manufacturing coordinator, offered introductory remarks and outlined the program. She was followed by Kelli Vallieres, President/CEO of Sound Manufacturing, who offered her industry perspective and stressed career mobility and job variety found in the advanced manufacturing. Howard Jenkins, HR Manager at Electric Boat and education liaison, concluded by challenging students with “can you imagine...” inspirational remarks that brought relevance to the parts manufactures make with the array produces we use.

The Precision Sheet Metal Fabrication certificate is a singularly unique program. This is the only program of its kind in the US. Program completers will gain a distinct employment edge in the manufacturing field.



CAMI Roadshow

During the month of July, the CAMI Director and Grant Finance Officer met with academic, finance and program personnel at each CAMI Consortium college to review progress towards grant goals and provide technical assistance. Each visit highlighted areas requiring improvement and “best practices”. Below are a sampling of each:

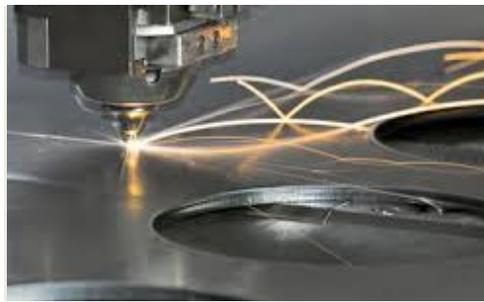
Areas for Improvement:

- ✓ Internal communication between fiscal and program staff
- ✓ Activity and expenditure alignment
- ✓ Timely report submission

Best Practices:

- ✓ Innovative WIB partnerships
- ✓ Upper management involvement
- ✓ Early curriculum development
- ✓ Collaboration between colleges
- ✓ Innovative employer partnerships
- ✓ Non-credit to credit curriculum
- ✓ Incumbent worker training





“For some, the mere mention of the term ‘manufacturing’ evokes connotations rooted in prior decades - Dirty, Dark, Dangerous and Declining. One might suggest the four ‘D’s’ of manufacturing be replaced by the four ‘A’s’ of advanced manufacturing: Advanced, Advantaged, Added Value and Accelerating.”

- *The New England Council and Deloitte Consulting LLP, April 2015*

NEW! Curriculum

Asnuntuck Community College has been developing a series of new 3rd semester certificates, a process that is being guided by Raymond Jarvis, Advanced Manufacturing Curriculum Coordinator and Instructor. Third-semester certificates are those short-term certificates that augment the existing Manufacturing Machine Technology Program.

- ✓ Additive Manufacturing
- ✓ Advanced Machine Technology
- ✓ Alternative Energy
- ✓ CAD/CAM
- ✓ Inspection
- ✓ Metal Fabrication



Statewide NIMS Certification

In July 2015, Naugatuck Valley Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Center hosted a statewide instructor professional development program on National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIIMS) certifications. The program was designed to offer a 5 day, instructor led workshop for metalworking instructors to gain understanding of NIMS National Industry Skill Standards and insight into curriculum alignment while offer-

ing NIMS credentialing opportunities. Congratulations to our talented manufacturing instructors who were able to participate. An impressive 32 credentials were obtained during this program. Once certified the manufacturing instructors can begin to test and certify the students in those disciplines. Over the last academic year, 332 NIMS credentials were awarded to manufacturing students across the CSCU System.

CAMI Programmatic & Fiscal Training

On June 4th we held our first CAMI Consortium training focusing on the programmatic and fiscal reporting aspects of USDOL grant management. We had an excellent turnout and participation from each college. We addressed the development of college work plans, collaboration with regional Workforce Investment Boards, required documentation, cost principles, basic definitions and we were able to field many of the

questions that have arisen since the grant was awarded. Many of the questions focused on the following:

- ✓ Allowable vs. unallowable costs
- ✓ Participant vs. completer definitions
- ✓ Approval process
- ✓ Understanding the fiscal template
- ✓ Local vs. federal policies
- ✓ Utilizing BlackBoard

Who is EAMA?

Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Association (EAMA) is a non-profit organization comprised of manufacturers in eastern Connecticut, south central Massachusetts, and northwest Rhode Island. EAMA promotes manufacturing careers, the development and advancement of manufacturing education, and works with its education and training partners to improve the regional manufacturing workforce. EAMA also creates a platform for its diverse group of more than 40 member companies, which employ more than 12,000 workers, to speak with one voice to advance the region's manufacturing agenda.



Both Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College collaborate with EAMA and their member companies. Their employer partners have been essential in creating industry-driven curriculum, providing student internships and creating employment opportunities for graduates at these colleges.