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The Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC) Receives Funding to Provide Advanced Inspection Training to Apprentices and Incumbent Workers

SEATTLE, WA – June 19, 2012– <u>The Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC</u>) is contracting with <u>Workforce Development Council Snohomish County (WDCSC</u>) to provide in-demand green and energy efficient skills through a \$1.5 million State Energy Partnership grant from the <u>Washington Workforce</u> <u>Training and Education Coordinating Board</u>. AJAC received \$20,000 to offer centrally-located advanced inspection training at no cost to apprentices and incumbent workers through the <u>Advanced Inspection and</u> <u>Manufacturing Mobile Training Unit (AIM-MTU)</u>. These apprentices and incumbent workers must be employed by companies who currently participate in AJAC's apprenticeship program as a Washington State Registered Labor & Industries Training Agent and have at least one employee in the program.

The <u>AIM-MTU</u> is a 53 foot classroom on wheels that provides training throughout the entire manufacturing and inspection process. The <u>AIM-MTU</u> is fully equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and technology including computerized training stations - CAD, CAM and HAAS Simulators, 3-D prototype technology, a coordinate measuring machine (CMM) and highly skilled instructors to help ensure employees are proficient in the tools and processes used in aerospace and advanced manufacturing. This type of quality inspection training enhances energy efficiency and renewable energy industries by ensuring accuracy in the production and inspection of machined parts.

Through this grant, AJAC's <u>AIM-MTU</u> will travel to centrally located facilities and service the following counties: Clallam, Island, Jefferson, Kitsap, San Juan Islands, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom. Specific site locations are to be determined. Courses provided on the <u>AIM-MTU</u> for this grant include:

- ROMER Arm Portable Coordinate Measuring Machine (PCMM): July 18-19
- Coordinate Measuring Machine (CMM): August 1-2
- 3-D Digital Microscope: August 22

Learn how your company can become a registered Training Agent with AJAC and enroll your employees in one or more of these courses, please contact AJAC at 206-465-2342 or <u>jhauth@ajactraining.org</u>



Twenty employers statewide have participated in the development of <u>AIM-MTU</u> course content, to ensure it is relevant and directly meets industry needs. Skills acquired in training helps the apprentice and incumbent worker build existing credentials and enhance employment advancement. "The State Energy Partnership funds allow AJAC to provide short-term technical training to the next generation workforce," says Laura Hopkins, AJAC Executive Director. "The AIM-MTU allows Incumbent workers to get the training they need in order to stay competitive in the aerospace and manufacturing industry. Employers can be confident their employees are up-to-date on the newest technology in order to continually produce a quality product."

Independent of this grant, the AIM-MTU travels to aerospace and advanced manufacturing employers job sites across Washington State to provide just-in-time manufacturing and inspection training at a competitive rate. The AIM-MTU gives employers the opportunity to train employees on location and on their schedule, without stopping production on their shop floor.

Find out more about the <u>AIM-MTU</u>, on <u>AJAC's web site</u>. Schedule the AIM-MTU to visit your company - contact AJAC at 206-456-8861 or <u>lstrickland@ajactraining.org</u>

<u>The Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC)</u> is a statewide, state-funded, non-profit organization that develops and implements Washington State registered apprenticeship programs for aerospace and advanced manufacturing occupations. AJAC offers Washington State employers a proven method to capture the knowledge and skills of their most experienced workers and pass it on to the next generation of productive employees. Apprenticeship combines supervised on-the-job training experience with college-level classroom instruction enabling employees to earn while they learn and employers to increase their workforce skills without disrupting production. Occupations include machinist, aircraft mechanic (airframe), aircraft interiors assembly mechanic, composite technician, precision metal fabricator and more! For more information about AJAC, visit: <u>www.ajactraining.org</u>.

Brought to you by a grant funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through the U.S. Department of Labor, this is a statewide project of the Washington State Energy Sector Partnership, led by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board with partners that include: Washington State Evergreen Jobs Leadership Team, Snohomish County, and Seattle-King County and Spokane Area Workforce Development Councils. Over half the funding, or some 51 percent, comes from the U.S. Department of Labor through a \$5,973,635 grant.

The Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC) is an equal opportunity employer and provider of training services. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request to persons with disabilities.