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For Immediate Release:

EDC AND FLORIDA MEP OFFER FREE TRAINING FOR MANUFACTURING COMPANIES THROUGH M.O.S.T. ®

NAPLES, FLORIDA (July 8, 2010) – The Economic Development Council of Collier County (EDC), in partnership with the Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), is offering free training for entry-level manufacturing positions through the Time Wise Mobile Outreach Skills Training (M.O.S.T. ®) program.

The EDC is reaching out to local manufacturing companies to find those interested in participating; companies must commit to hiring entry-level workers by early fall. Once the EDC has a minimum of ten positions committed, the training can take place. Without the ten positions, the EDC and Collier County miss out on this great opportunity.

“Manufacturing is a targeted industry in Collier County. We work with those companies to meet their needs and often hear about the lack of skilled labor. When we learned of the opportunity to bring a training program to Collier, at no charge to the manufacturers, we started working on it right away,” said Bill O’Neill, Chairman of the EDC.

The M.O.S.T. ® program, created by Time Wise Management Systems, is an intensely-focused practical skills, theory and hands-on curriculum that uses a process of both computer-based 3-D simulations and hands-on self-paced training modules. The program involves comprehensive training in shop math, blueprint reading and metrology, computer numerical control (CNC) machine milling and turning, as well as fundamental manufacturing skills.

The M.O.S.T. ® program is different because it relies on manufacturers to establish the demand for entry level positions and trains the appropriate number of people to satisfy that demand. They work with the local workforce development boards to find the right candidates for the job and conduct a significant amount to screening to ensure that the best candidates receive the training and jobs.

"The two-week intensive training by M.O.S.T. provides new hires with sufficient initial skills that enable them to immediately begin contributing to the company’s overall performance. Not only does M.O.S.T. provide job specific skills, but also provides good employee skills. What M.O.S.T. provides in two weeks would normally take months of on-the-job training and with much less formality. We highly recommend M.O.S.T. to any company that needs highly motivated and semi-skilled employees that otherwise would not [be] available," said John Goings, General Manager, Kreiger Machine Company, Inc.

The M.O.S.T. ® program content is designed to train people for the jobs of the future in a new, greener economy. It trains and places people with little or no prior experience into entry level production jobs in a fraction of the time of traditional programs. This program provides an opportunity to lift the new hires and their families out of poverty, provide health insurance for the first time and position them for career ladders that allow long-term growth and higher earning potential. The training modules can be customized to the specific needs of the employer and the skill sets of the students and are available in English or Spanish. To watch a video about the M.O.S.T. ® program, [click here](#).

Please contact Brooke Gabrielsen at Brooke@enaplesflorida.com or 239.263.8989 ext. 109 if you are interested in hiring entry-level manufacturing employees for this program.

If you are an individual interested in training, please contact the Career Services Center at 239.436.4301. For more information about M.O.S.T. ® and the Florida MEP, visit <http://www.timewisems.com/MOST.html> and www.floridamep.org.

For more information about the many advantages to locating or expanding a business in Collier County, contact the Economic Development Council of Collier County at (239) 263-8989, or find us on-line at www.eNaplesFlorida.com.

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About the Economic Development Council of Collier County

Founded in 1976, the Economic Development Council of Collier County (EDC) is a private, not-for-profit corporation with a mission to diversify the economy and create high wage jobs. The EDC, through a Public/Private Partnership for Economic Diversification, created in 1997 with the Collier County Board of Commissioners has developed a 5-year strategic plan focused on innovation and entrepreneurship. The 2010-2015 Economy by Design plan includes five key strategic elements: Business Expansion & Attraction; Economic Gardening; Project Innovation; Regional Branding & Marketing; and Investor Relations. All of these elements combine to create a business-friendly environment that focuses on a strong entrepreneurial support system that will grow a world class vibrant economy. Contact the EDC at 239-263-8989 or on the web at www.eNaplesFlorida.com

Tammie Nemecek serves as President of the Economic Development Council of Collier County.