

**Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium  
Members & Resource Partners Meeting  
Minutes  
September 4, 2008**

The September 4th meeting of the Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium was called to order by Vice President Jeff Fullerton at 7:35 AM at PA CareerLink Armstrong County.

**Present**

**Members**

Bill Ellwell - AlphaCarb  
Jeff Fullerton – DRS Technologies  
Joe Goldcamp – Nature’s Blend  
Chuck Slagle – CES Die Design  
Alex Stockmal – Mid-Atlantic District Labs  
Pat Huth – Penn State Electro-Optics  
Randy Bowser - Alkab  
Jim Pish – Dielectric Solutions  
Joanne Petras – Fuzion Technologies

**Resource Partners**

Kate Hall – Clarion SBDC  
Marie Dillon-Griffith – CareerLink  
David English – AET  
Lori Harvey – TCWIB  
Pat Hollinger – Penn State New Ken  
Joe Fullerton – Lenape  
Justin Nolder – DPD

**Guest**

Lori Harris – Family Life Television

**Minutes**

Jeff Fullerton asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. Joe Goldcamp made a motion to accept the minutes. Randy Bowser seconded the motion. The motion passed upon a voice vote.

**Family Life Television**

Lori Harris, Vice President of Special Project from Family Life Television gave a short presentation on her Youth Program. It assists children ages 8 – 12 locate their passions, participate in community service projects, and allows mentoring & job shadowing in the work environment. The students are recruited through the schools, the Assistance Office, homeschooled, cyber schooled children and through other resources. The program is funded by through the Workforce Investment Board. Lori requested that the companies offer her feedback on what they need so the students are prepared to enter the workforce. If anyone is interested in helping locate a student for internship or otherwise, contact Lori at lharris@familylifetv.com

**Reports**

**Public Awareness**

Jeff Fullerton reported that the radio programs have been going well. He encouraged other people to attend and requested that they give ideas of specific topics they would be interested in. Jeff stated that the producers make it very easy because they get excited

about the program and really want to know more about the local companies and what they offer.

### **Training**

Joe Goldcamp told the group that the CJT Program has concluded and to date he had nothing more to report.

### **Vendors**

Joanne Petras informed the group that the committee is still working on vendors that will offer not only the companies but their employee's discounts too. There are some companies that are receptive but other that have declined the offer. A letter is also being designed for companies to distribute to their vendors and for the Chamber of Commerce mailings.

### **SET Program**

Lori Harvey, distributed the Flash Drives for members with the Skills Expansion Training on them. The information was reviewed for the group to display the content of the program. It can be used as is or it can be customized for each company. The list was comprised of what the new hires will have to know. The program consists of Instructions, PowerPoint, and Wrap-up. It also includes certificates to print for new hires. If anyone has any questions, please contact Lori. David English requested that each company looks at the program and determines how it will fit in with their training plans.

### **Company Meetings**

Pat Hollinger and Kate Curtis have been in the process of scheduling meetings to determine what training needs exist within the companies and also the needs from the consortium in general. The two companies they met with indicated their training needs were Welding, CNC, EDM, Solid Works, CAM, Unigraphics, Lean Programs, Strategic Planning, Web Design, Crystal Reporting and OSHA. There were also questions about the shared video library such as procedures for use and making copies. Pat suggested that maybe we should be visiting the companies earlier to help the companies use the training money that is available. The money should never be returned. She has more to discuss but would prefer Vickie DeThomas was present so they will give more details at the next meeting.

### **Partner Updates**

#### *WIB*

Lori Harvey distributed the HR Certificates for anyone who hadn't received them yet. She also distributed Website reports that detailed the activity on the website. There will also be a Advanced Employment Law class at the Armstrong Educational Trust on October 29<sup>th</sup>. There is room for 20 students and to date she has 12 enrolled.

### *Lenape*

Joe Fullerton stated that the Fall Classes started. They now have a Standup Forklift and Sitdown Forklift program available to those interested. They can now come to your site to do the training. Joe also introduced questions from Dawn Kocher-Taylor about Educators in the Workplace; Can it be done after school, The largest group, what time, can anyone host? David English informed him that a Steering Committee would be held on Wednesday so if he was interested in attending there would be a discussion on all the issues associated with this program. Joe Goldcamp question if the program was one day or 3 hours. David stated that some of the teachers spend days and then write lessons on what they have learned. It is hard coordinating during the school year because of the need for subs in the classrooms. Joe Fullerton also mentioned his Principal Program it will require a mini career fair and if anyone can do a 10-20 minutes presentation please contact him.

### *CareerLink*

Marie Dillon-Griffith stated that the Veterans Expo went really well. They had some great placements of high caliber employees. It consisted of 5 Counties, 3 WIBS and 6 CareerLinks. They are now coordinating with Alle-Kiski for their first joint job fair at Penn State New Kensington on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Marie also mentioned that the Eljer employees will have their last day of work on September 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be 158 employees in need of the CareerLink services.

### *DPD*

Justin Nolder stated that the Armtech Showcase had 96 Booths, 76 exhibitors. The seminars were not attended as they were last year but the opening reception and the Exhibitors showcase both went well. The Student Forum added more exhibitor interaction; it was a great addition. Congressman Murtha actually wanted to place the students in the booths. There was positive feedback from all the students and mentors that attended. Marie Dillon-Griffith stated that the exhibitors were impressed because the students were actually taking notes. Jeff Fullerton noticed that by having the students there the exhibitors stayed longer. Joe Fullerton suggested next year the Senior High Counselors as well as the parents get involved. David English thanked everyone that helped with startup and mentoring. It was nice to hear the students say they now no that they don't have to move away from the area to get a good job. Justin also informed the group that Nick Caruso will be leaving the County Planning Department to take a job with Rosebud Mining.

With no other business to conduct, vice president Fullerton adjourned the meeting at 8:50 AM.