
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Greater St. Louis Area Automotive Training Consortium



Grant amount: \$1,499,998

Grantee: St. Louis Workforce Investment Board

Key partners: United Autoworkers International Union–Region 5 (UAW), Ford Motor Company, DaimlerChrysler Corp., General Motors Corp., and St. Louis Community College

Location of grant activities: St. Louis Metropolitan Region

Leveraged amount: \$2,443,954 from the business partners.

Challenge:

To remain competitive in a global market, U.S. automotive manufacturers require highly skilled employees who are trained in the latest manufacturing technologies, and who can contribute to the process of continuous innovation.

Addressing the Challenge:

The St. Louis City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) has been instrumental in the creation of the Greater St. Louis Area Automotive Consortium, which was established to provide more cost effective training for the four local auto plants. The Consortium members are the WIB, United Autoworkers (UAW) International Union – Region 5, Ford Motor St. Louis Assembly Plant, General Motors Wentzville Assembly Plant, DaimlerChrysler North Assembly Plant, DaimlerChrysler South Assembly Plant, General Motors Truck Group Wentzville Assembly Center, and St. Louis Community College. This project will mark the first time each of the four automotive plants and unions have planned training on an area-wide basis, taking into account the sharing of the best training practices.

Through this grant, automotive workers will receive state-of-the-art training in: 1) integration of automated systems; 2) predictive maintenance for advanced manufacturing systems; 3) enhanced mechanical technology; and 4) enhanced electrical technology. This training will allow St. Louis area auto manufacturers to remain globally competitive while giving employees portable skills and job advancement opportunities.

Projected Outcomes:

- Trainees will earn college credits leading to an Associate's of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering Technology.
- Of those trained, 75% will attain certificates of industry skill standards, 65% will receive an AAS degree and 40% will earn a Bachelor's of Science degree.
- Businesses will be more efficient and reduce line shutdowns (which can range from \$10,000 to \$30,000 per minute).

