
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Expanding Illinois State University's Advanced Manufacturing/ Integrated Systems Technology (AM/IST) Program



Grant Amount: \$5,774,420 (\$3,274,420 to refine and adapt the curricula into 16-hour learning segments for incumbent worker training and create apprenticeship and AAS degree models for replication in other states; \$2.5 million to create Advanced Manufacturing/Integrated Systems Technology Centers of Excellence that replicate the full project in four new states.)

Leveraged Amount: \$1,926,564 from the state workforce agencies and other local partners from North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wyoming

Key Partners: Thirteen community colleges and six state workforce agencies

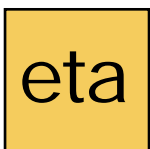
Grant Activities will take place in Illinois, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wyoming

Challenge: As production equipment and processes become more technology-intensive, American manufacturers require highly skilled workers who can operate, troubleshoot, and maintain complex, integrated technologies.

Addressing the Challenge: With the assistance of grant seed money from the Employment and Training Administration, Illinois State University operates the National Center for Integrated Systems Technology (NCIST) to train dislocated workers for jobs that entail setting up, troubleshooting and maintaining high-tech integrated systems. Specifically, participants in the program receive training in working with electrical systems, electronics, hydraulics and pneumatics, piping systems, electronic sensors, basic mechanical devices, and how these systems interact with one another. The Advanced Manufacturing/Integrated Systems Technology (AM/IST) program cross-trains individuals in these advanced skills, and graduates leave with updated knowledge of high-tech production equipment. AM/IST has proven successful in offering hands-on training with industry-driven curricula. Furthermore, One-Stop Career Centers at the eight existing AM/IST sites in Illinois and Ohio provide assessment, job placement, and supportive services.

Projected Outcomes: Since March 2003, AM/IST graduates have been hired by 186 companies in Illinois and Ohio. With new funding from the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative, ISU's National Center for Integrated Systems Technology will:

- Refine/redesign the training curricula to create an associate degree program;
- Design and pilot an AM/IST apprenticeship model;
- Refine and adapt the training curricula into 16-hour learning segments for incumbent worker training;
- Create an AM/IST career ladder and lattice; and
- Replicate AM/IST training for dislocated workers, incumbent workers, apprentices and individuals interested in obtaining an AAS degree in the advanced manufacturing field in four additional states through regional Centers of Excellence in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wyoming. These new centers will be developed at four community colleges that have demonstrated their success in partnering with and serving the workforce needs of regional manufacturers.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Advanced Manufacturing Industry Demonstration Grants
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