

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Advanced Technologies and Manufacturing Consortium Partners with Texas State Technical College Marshall for a \$500,000 Governor's Cluster Initiative Grant

AUSTIN – The East Texas area workforce will benefit from a \$500,000 job-training grant from the *Meeting Industries' Critical Workforce Needs* grant program. Endorsed by Gov. Rick Perry, this initiative targets workforce training programs in six, high-growth industry clusters.

Governor Rick Perry said, "Through these grants, we are investing in programs related to critical industry sectors that offer the best promise for future job growth. Education programs in these core industries strengthen the future of our workforce, and enhance Texas' economic leadership and competitive edge in a rapidly changing global economy."

The partnership includes Texas State Technical College Marshall, the University of Texas, five area high schools including Marshall, Hallsville, Jefferson, Waskom, Harrison County Early College, Regions VII and VIII Education Service Centers, Dana Corp., LeTourneau Technologies, Trinity Rail, East Texas Workforce Development Board and the Marshall Economic Development Corp.

The program will target Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education for students and workers to embed integrated computer skills into their coursework. Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) modules will be incorporated in required courses in the East Texas region to support the Advanced Technologies and Manufacturing Industry Cluster.

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) provides U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds to support the *Meeting Industries' Critical Workforce Needs* grant opportunities. The initiatives outlined in the winning proposals help build on existing partnerships in business and education, engage youth in science and math specific to advanced technology and manufacturing to meet the needs of target industries.

For more information on the *Meeting Industries' Critical Workforce Needs* grants, visit the TWC web site at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/news/ticluster.html>

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the programs it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.