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AME Spearheads Efforts to Attract Larger Workforce to Growing Manufacturing Industries

ROLLING MEADOWS, ILL. - APRIL 16, 2014 - With the market continuing to drive up demand for more workers in numerous manufacturing industries, the Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) is leading the charge to reinvigorate the national workforce and attract new personnel. AME continues to connect experienced workers with new job openings and is working with high schools to promote manufacturing as a desirable, viable career option.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in 2011 the average manufacturing worker in the U.S. earned more than \$77,000 annually. These high-paying careers reflect the growth of stable, profitable manufacturing industries within the country. This growth has driven up demand among these industries for highly skilled engineers, operators and technicians. In order to inspire the next generation to meet that rapidly growing demand, AME is reaching out to schools across the country to promote student growth and rewarding careers in manufacturing.

AME's Adopt a School Initiative will connect manufacturers with schools in their community to give students an opportunity to receive practical learning experience. The initiative will complement the growing number of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) classes in schools across the country by providing students with hands-on experiences. Through the initiative, students will explore careers in manufacturing and have access to mentors.

AME also provides scholarship opportunities to those pursuing a career in manufacturing. The Dr. Sherrie Ford Manufacturing as a Career Path 2014-2015 Scholarship provides an opportunity for career-minded individuals to make their mark on the manufacturing world. High school graduates or those with prior work experience who are seeking a college education are eligible to apply. The deadline for applications is June 13, 2014, for students applying for the fall term.

As job openings in numerous manufacturing industries continue to grow, so does AME's commitment to promoting the value of a career in manufacturing

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to students and those who will soon enter the workforce. By working with schools and bringing them together with the manufacturers in their community, AME hopes to inspire the next generation of great engineers.

About the Association for Manufacturing Excellence

The Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) is the premier not-for-profit organization dedicated to the journey of continuous improvement and enterprise excellence. AME's membership is composed of a trusted network of volunteers who are committed to leveraging the practitioner-to-practitioner and company-to-company shared-learning experience. Through engaging workshops, plant tours, webinars, summits and industry-leading conferences, AME members are continually discovering and implementing new continuous improvement strategies and best practices. AME offers its members a multitude of valuable resources to help them stay abreast of current industry developments and improve the skills, competitiveness and overall success of their organizations. Join AME in leading the "Renaissance of Manufacturing in North America." For more information, visit www.ame.org or email info@ame.org.