

Focus On Manufacturing

Workforce Solutions for NW Indiana's Employers

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Are you on the Manufacturing Day calendar? Would you like to have your company be part of the region's Manufacturing Day events?



On Monday, October 6th, many **Northwest Indiana schools and employers** alike will take part in Manufacturing Day. Whether you provide a tour to high school students and counselors or you agree to be a guest speaker at a local school, sharing the world of manufacturing with our youth is important in helping them understand that good paying jobs and great careers are available.

Sandra Alvarez, Senior Associate-Employer Engagement with the Center of Workforce Innovations is available to help connect you with a school or work with you to host a tour at your facility for students. Sandra can be reached at 219-462-2940, ext. 33 or email her at salvarez@cwicorp.com.

Sullair is sold on interns at their Michigan City location



A Hitachi Group Company

The summer of 2017 marks the fifth year that Sullair has hosted interns in its Michigan City facility.

"The program has been an excellent and cost effective recruiting tool for us," says Kelly Molchan, coordinator of the firm's talent and engagement function. Molchan believes the interns are given "real world work experience" as they are placed on company teams in Manufacturing Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Product Support and Sustaining Engineering, IT – Data Mapping, Supplier Quality and Operations. [Read full article](#)

Positive findings on job openings and labor turnover *(as reported by the National Association of Manufacturing)*

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that manufacturing job openings bounced back from 350,000 in May—its slowest pace so far this year—to 388,000 in June. That was the best number since March's reading of 404,000, which was a 16-year high. In June, both durable (up from 201,000 to 214,000) and non-durable (up

from 149,000 to 174,000) goods firms had more job postings.

Openings in the sector have averaged 372,000 year to date in 2017, an improvement from the average of 342,000 for all of 2016. We would expect stronger job openings data moving forward, especially given recent improvements in the economic outlook for the sector, and this should lead to better hiring figures. [Read full article](#)

Misconception of U.S. manufacturing hinder women's job prospects

In 2016, women accounted for just 29% of all U.S. manufacturing jobs. When you consider that women make up 47% of the entire U.S. workforce, that's an alarmingly low number. What's even more alarming is that the problem has nothing to do with job shortages. Instead, manufacturing is suffering from a significant shortage of skilled workers and ingrained misconceptions of male-dominated industry steeped in tradition. [Read full article](#)

Source: [IndustryWeek.com](#); Article by Ron Tosh

Would you like to offset some costs while training Hoosiers for in-demand jobs?

The State's Next Level Jobs initiative will contribute more than \$20 million over the next two years into a pair of grant programs through the Department of Workforce Development. The Employer Training grant will help employers of in-demand industries with the cost of training new employees, while a Workforce Ready grant will help adults earn career certificates for better paying jobs in high-growth industry sectors including **advanced manufacturing, building and construction, health and life sciences, IT and business services, and transportation and logistics.**

*Employers in the identified high demand business sectors can be **reimbursed up to \$2,500 for each new employee** that is trained, hired and retained for 6 months. There is a \$25,000 cap for each employer and the jobs must be middle skill, high-demand and high-wage jobs that require more than a high school diploma but less than an associate degree.*

Visit the NextLevelJobs.org for more information about applying for funds.

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