



NEWS

El Camino College Compton Center
Public Relations Department | 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506
Tel: 310-660-3406 | Fx: 310-660-3946 | Contact: Ann M. Garten | agarten@elcamino.edu

For Immediate Release
Copy by Helene Ansel

February 17, 2009

El Camino College Compton Center Aerospace Fastener Boot Camp Continues to Draw Students

The waiting list for entrance into El Camino College Compton Center's Aerospace Fastener Boot Camp Program is up to 300 people. The vocational technology department receives 5-10 calls per day from individuals who have heard about the program through word of mouth from students and from career centers, job placement agencies and veterans' programs. Inquiries come from Compton and surrounding cities as well as from Glendale and Orange County.

The Fastener Boot Camp program at Compton Center began on November 5, 2008. The first cohort of 23 students completed 320 hours of training during the 8-week program and participated in a completion ceremony on January 23, 2009. The second cohort starting now has 25 students enrolled. This intensive program includes 40 hours per week in the classroom and three hours of homework daily. A key component is that students may qualify for a paid internship and job placement.

Even in these economic times, the demand is great for well-trained individuals in the aerospace fastener industry, with an estimated 200-400 workers needed each year for the next five years. In addition to aerospace fastener manufacturing--the mechanical joining of two or more objects, including bolts and rivets; is used in transportation, defense and construction industries. Southern California is home to numerous aerospace fastener manufacturers and distributors who employ more than 10,000 people. The industry plays a major role in economy of our region and the state of California.

This specialized training intended to meet the specific needs of the fastener industry is provided by the Centers for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT), and funded by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's office of economic and workforce development. There are 10 centers throughout the state.

According to David Gonzales, CACT director at El Camino College, there is no program like Compton Center's Aerospace Fastener Boot Camp in the western United States. The El Camino College District joined together industry partners with several workforce investment boards, forming the Aerospace Fastener Manufacturing Training Alliance (AFMTA), which is dedicated to creating a trained workforce in the fastener industry. The Alliance is working to advance the training program to the next level by developing curriculum for a Certificate of Completion and an A.S. degree in Aerospace Fastener Manufacturing Technology.

Rodney Murray, Compton Center Dean of Career Technology Education, says: “The fastener program meets the distinct needs of students, the job market and our surrounding communities, and we are committed to successful outcomes. The response has been overwhelming as the skills and training received leads to jobs that supply a family sustaining income.”

For information about the program, call Alicia Zambrano at 310-900-1600, ext. 2779.

El Camino College Compton Center is accredited and serving the educational needs of our community. Students are able to earn an associate degree, transfer to a four-year university or receive career training. Fees are only \$20 per unit. The college catalog, class schedule, evenings and weekend college offerings are available in-person or on-line at www.compton.edu. Compton Center is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA; 310-900-1600.

###