

## Indiana County Manufacturing Consortium January 10, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Open Meeting, Welcome guests and new members – Mike Rempel

Mike mentioned that Westinghouse is going to join the Westmoreland county manufacturing group

Mike welcomed Wayne Simmons of Indiana Tool and Die to the group

Update on General Labor Force Statistics – Mike Rempel

Review L&I statistics for the month of November

Non-seasonally adjusted workforce stayed the same, seasonally adjusted dropped 200 from October and 300 from November 2006

Mike also referenced a study by the Three Rivers Consortium regarding Region's Aging Workforce Study

Update on currently funded projects – Lori Harvey

Video projects

Career Gates – we received the video – it was shown at the end of the meeting

Creative Consultants – in process

Work Certified

Next Class coming soon

Lori and Carol Frye discussed the licensing issues regarding using the program as part of the ICTC curriculum. A discussion will be set up to discuss this issue with the licensee of the program.

First Energy Assistance with Fabricated Metals business cluster – Dana Henry

Discussion of upcoming Events, Activities, Actions and Proposed Ideas – Mike Rempel

Indiana Gazette News Stories

Dana met with Jason Levan and he has agreed to include a business bio with the monthly Chamber page, the Consortium is more than welcome to submit suggestions for businesses to include. Also, the Gazette is doing its annual Economic Outlook feature later this month, maybe get a feature article together about the Consortium and manufacturing in Indiana County?

Indiana Expo 2008

Anyone interested in helping? Frank and Carol will also staff the booth with Mike and Lori

Discussion of Various Initiatives

Pittsburgh Compact

On our November regional partner conference call we announced that Paul Leger, Senior Vice President of the Allegheny Conference's Workforce Quality Program is launching the Pittsburgh Regional Compact – a regional workforce preparedness initiative. To ensure regional

awareness of and engagement in the initiative, Paul would like to hold briefing sessions with community leaders in each of the 10 counties.

In order make these sessions as effective as possible, we'd like to ask for your participation in your county's session and your input regarding:

1. Where in your county to hold the event.
2. When to hold the event (possible dates in the January/February timeframe).
3. Who to invite to the session. Thus far, plans are to include: Commissioners, economic development officials, superintendents, major intermediary organizations, and major county employers. We have contact information for most of these groups, but would like your recommendations regarding which companies to include and if there are other groups that need to be present.

Please email Mickey Denner at [mdenner@pittsburghregion.org](mailto:mdenner@pittsburghregion.org) with your suggestions for location, date and invitation list. If we do not hear from you, we'll plan to follow up via phone after the first of the year.

#### Smart Futures

Too similar to Work Certified – probably not something to pursue

#### Adventures in Technology

Skilled or unskilled

What is ICTC involvement

Companies interested in an internship

- 1) It says below that unskilled jobs are decreasing. That may be true nationally or even regionally, but I would like to see if that's true in Indiana County. It certainly isn't at Gorell.
- 2) It says below that ICTC is a participant. I would like to get their input on the program and what they are doing with it.
- 3) I'm not sure what the bang for the buck is here. Depending on the cost and answers from the issues above, I would like to see if there are manufacturers in our group that would be interested in taking on students for a summer internship for a project like this.

Mike mentioned the PA Career Guide recently published which is geared toward manufacturing <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us/gsipub/index.asp?docid=405>

#### Training Needs – Lori Harvey

Current information received

Company Success Story – Clark Metals – Employee Suggestion Program – will be presented at February's meeting.

Need for company success stories – Feb & March

Next meeting – February 14<sup>th</sup>

No scheduled speaker