



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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PRESS RELEASE

**GOODWILL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COORDINATES  
LAUNCH OF THE CALIFORNIA ADVANCED MANUFACTURING COLLABORATIVE**

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Santa Clarita, CA, February 23, 2017 – On Monday, February 27 from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Goodwill Southern California (GSC), Los Angeles County and College of the Canyons will be hosting a “CAMAC Kick Off” at College of the Canyons, 26455 Rockwell Canyon Road, Santa Clarita 91355, to launch the California Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Collaborative (CAMAC) with nine manufacturing companies who have agreed to host Manufacturing Apprenticeships.

CAMAC is a collaborative between Goodwill Southern California, manufacturing companies, community colleges, ToolingU, and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The partnership began in October of 2016 and is now ready to proceed with On-The-Job Training in March 2017. This unique approach to apprenticeship allows for manufacturers to select and train workers in any of sixteen different occupations already approved by U.S. DOL in the Standards of Apprenticeship. Colleges are enlisted to provide up to 144 hours per year of related technical instruction.

“Apprenticeships are a proven model that increase skills and upward career mobility for workers that may not pursue post-secondary education, as well as address the specific skills needs of employers seeking to hire from the community. The impact on jobseekers and employer partners is incredible and Goodwill Southern California will support expansion of these efforts as much as possible,” said Simon Lopez, Vice President of Workforce and Career Development.

Registered Apprenticeship is an important workforce development strategy that the workforce system provides to both job seekers and employers. Engagement with employers, institutions of higher education, and policy makers have ramped up significantly in order to achieve the U.S. Department of Labor’s goal to double the number of apprentices across the United States by 2020. Registered Apprenticeship is a historic opportunity for the workforce system to expand its business base and offer job seekers greater employment prospects while offering employers a strategic approach to talent development.

The companies working with CAMAC in this roll out are: Superior Thread Rolling Company, Vanderhorst Brothers, Inc., Lee’s Enterprise, Repairtech International, Inc., Xceliron Inc., Fralock, Del West Engineering Inc., Meschkat Precision Machining, Inc., Forest Machining Inc., and Aerostructures. These companies will train students in a variety of high need, in-demand occupations such as: Machine Operator I, CNC Machine Operator, CNC Machine Programmer, and Machinist. Program length varies from one to two years. The occupations chosen by these business owners are those identified nationwide experiencing a critical shortage of workers.

The need for a solution to the challenges in the manufacturing sector is clear:

- Los Angeles County continues to be a manufacturing powerhouse with more than 365,500 jobs in manufacturing industries\*
- 84% of executives surveyed agreed there is a talent shortage in U.S. manufacturing\*\*
- 6 out of 10 opened skilled production positions are unfilled due to talent shortage\*\*
- In 2011, 2.8 million manufacturing workers (1/4 of all industry workers) were 55 or older\*\*\*

\*Source: California's Manufacturing Industries: Employment and Competitiveness in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 2014

\*\* Source: Manufacturing Institute and Deloitte Skills Gap Study, 2015

\*\*\*Source: Manufacturing Facts: April 4, 2013 by John Guenther Making Manufacturing Cool Key To Revival In California CA Economy Manufacturing Blog

GSC is robustly engaging employers and advancing the practice and application of apprenticeship in Southern California as a tried and true method of addressing the critical shortage of workers in the sector by working with colleges, coordinating services, leveraging funding, and overseeing compliance of the program with DOL. Employer partners believe that apprenticeship will help them grow their own talent with committed workforce partners, provide additional value to their own on-the-job-training, and elevate the image of the industry while opening employees up to a wider pool of eligible candidates pre-assessed for the work. Some companies will be using the apprenticeship program to draw interested career-minded workers and enhance longevity with their companies. The US DOL will issue a National Credential upon completing the program, which is honored in every state with industry recognized value.

To learn more about CAMAC, please Contact Tracy DiFilippis at 323.477.3923 or [tdifilippis@goodwillsoocal.org](mailto:tdifilippis@goodwillsoocal.org). Media interested in covering the "CAMAC Kick Off" may contact Marla Eby, Goodwill Southern California Director of Marketing & Community Relations at 323-539-2104 or [meby@goodwillsoocal.org](mailto:meby@goodwillsoocal.org).

### **About Goodwill Southern California**

*Transforming lives through the power of work, Goodwill Southern California (GSC) serves people with disabilities or other vocational challenges, as well as businesses, by providing education, training, work experience and job placement services. Each year, GSC prepares and places thousands of individuals into sustainable employment through programs and services offered at three campuses, Career Resource Centers, WorkSource Centers, Deaf, Youth and Veteran Employment Programs throughout Los Angeles (north of Rosecrans Ave.), Riverside and San Bernardino counties. GSC supports its mission with proceeds generated from 81 retail stores and 47 attended donation centers. GSC spends 95 percent of its budget on programs and services. Committed to caring for the earth, in 2015 GSC diverted over 100 million pounds of reusable or recyclable goods from landfills, Goodwill is Good For Everyone! For more information about Goodwill Southern California, please call (888) 4-GOODWILL or visit [www.GoodwillSoCal.org](http://www.GoodwillSoCal.org).*

### **About California Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Collaborative**

*The California Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Collaborative (CAMAC) apprenticeship standards have as their objective, the training of Tool Programmer, Machinist, Machine Operators, Mechatronics Technician, Metal Fabricators, Welders and Molders skilled in all phases of the industry. CAMAC recognizes that in order to accomplish this, there must be well-developed on-the-job learning combined with related instruction. This recognition has resulted in the development of the standards of apprenticeship. They were developed in accordance with*

*the basic standards recommended by the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship, as a basis from which the sponsor can work to establish an apprenticeship training program that meets the particular needs of the area. <http://www.camac.us>*

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