

WCM Academy Graduates Slash Manufacturing Costs 7 Pct.

Chrysler's WCM (World Class Manufacturing) Academy received recognition recently in the 2013 Manufacturing Leadership 100 (ML100) Awards, which honor those shaping the future of global manufacturing.

The ML100 Awards honored the academy in the New Workforce category, which identifies companies that involve education and training, knowledge management and transfer and collaboration with educational institutions.

Judging was done by Frost & Sullivan's Manufacturing Leadership Council assessed hundreds of nominations across 11 categories. Judges look for individuals or projects that stand out from the competition by delivering clear and compelling value, and other tangible results.

"On behalf of all who contribute to the WCM Academy, we are humbled by this recognition in the 2013 Manufacturing Leadership 100 Awards," said Mauro Pino, head of World Class Manufacturing, Chrysler Group LLC. "The human element is at the center of WCM and is a way of life for Chrysler Group workers.

"The company's success depends on the involvement of its workers... it's a team effort."

The Chrysler WCM Academy opened its doors in January 2012 and takes up about 25,000 square feet of the UAW-Chrysler Technology Training Center in Warren.

The academy puts an emphasis on hands-on exercises in problem solving. The academy trained



A student at the WCM Academy wears a motion capture suit to demonstrate movements required to build a child's bike. Analysis of the data will help improve ergonomics and workplace organization for the operator on the line. The purpose of the WCM Academy is to transfer WCM "know-how" to more than 1,200 participants each year and cultivate an enriched culture of continuous improvement and learning.

more than 3,400 employees from across the company's manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and Canada in its first year, exceeding its goals.

These newly trained personnel began repaying the company's investment at once, applying their new knowledge and making improvements as soon as they returned to their plants.

Chrysler Spokesperson Valerie Oehmke said the company hopes to train at least as many employees during 2013 as the number the academy graduated last year.

In 2012, the Academy generated know-how that has driven new projects that contributed to a seven percent WCM cost savings.

"The Chrysler Group workforce understands that the company's continued success is directly related to our ability to implement WCM quickly and thoroughly," said General Holiefield, UAW vice president, Chrysler Department. "They have risen to the challenge and are helping change the culture within our facilities."

World Class Manufacturing, a methodology that focuses on re-

ducing waste, increasing productivity and improving quality and safety in a systematic and organized way, was first implemented by Fiat in 2006 and then introduced to the Chrysler Group in June 2009 as part of the alliance between the two companies.

Under WCM, employees are encouraged to come up with suggestions to improve their jobs and their plants, and to be active in implementing the improvements.

The 2013 ML100 Award winners will be honored at a celebration May 15.

Culinary Students Serve OCC Donors

Nearly 200 scholarship recipients, members of their families and Oakland Community College personnel attended the Oakland Community College Foundation's 21st Annual Scholarship Luncheon March 14.

The event featured a luncheon prepared by OCC's Culinary Studies Institute. Veteran Detroit radio personality Bob Allesee (known as Bob Allison), who sits on the board of directors for the OCC Foundation, served as Master of Ceremonies.

"This has always been such an inspiring event," said Nicholas Thines, OCC Foundation Legacy Society member. "Last year, my wife, Barbara Frey, and I decided to start an annual scholarship in addition to our previously planned gift.

"We have so much to be thankful for, and it's gratifying to know that we are helping OCC students succeed."

In total, 296 OCC students received scholarships in the 2012-13 academic year. During the program, students Richard Pringle and Jacara Williams, alumnus Mark Morrison and donor Dennis Fiems spoke about how receiving scholarships or giving charitable gifts for scholarships have had impacts on their lives.

Got News?

If you have solid business news for this paper, please contact us at News@OaklandTechNews.com.


CHIEF FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION

Drive off with a great rate!

Auto Rates as low as

1.89% APR*

Up to 60 mo.




Call, Click or use your Smartphone to apply!

(800)844-5440

www.chiefonline.com

or use our Mobile App!

Scan this QR Code to get entered into a \$50 drawing!



NCUA

*APR is subject to terms, conditions and credit score. 2011-2013 models only.

SAE 2013 World Congress

ACHIEVING EFFICIENCY

THE ESSENTIAL AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY EVENT



What is SAE 2013 World Congress?

April 16-18, 2013
Cobo Center
Detroit, Michigan, USA

Host Company



Tier One Strategic Partner



It's not too late to SAVE. Register Now!

sae.org/congress

SAE International

P135283