

"Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises."

- Demosthenes

www.mteckvcc.com It's Brand New!

Our new website reflects the energy you'll feel when you visit the M-TEC at KVCC. Whether you need to sign up for a program, rent a room or two, check our catering menus or look up our phone number, you'll find the site to be customer focused and easy to navigate. The program search feature along with our "new" online payment system, make all these routine steps easier for you. Visit our new website today and share in our excitement.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Forum

Everything you wanted to know about applying for and receiving a patent – but were afraid to ask – was asked at a public forum held at the M-TEC Thursday, August 4th.

Ten examiners from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office presented "The Top 10 Dos and the Top 10 Don'ts" of the nation's patent system in a one-hour session capped by a question-and-answer segment. The main purpose was to present a basic overview of the process and outline the steps to apply for a patent. Also discussed was how the system works and why it is important to receive a patent on a new idea or product. This event, attended by almost 80 area individuals, was extremely well received.

Members of the audience came up after the Q&A to say how rare an opportunity this was to talk with so many different examiners in a relaxed and informal environment. Typically, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office does not offer public forums. This presentation at M-TEC was the conclusion of a week-long visit to Michigan to explore the state's initiatives in RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology. Earlier in the day, they met with the RFID Technology Center board, Global Berry Farms, Stryker and toured the WMU testing lab.

Area Tooling Companies Collaborate to Secure their Future

Equipment auctions have become a sign of the times for the struggling tooling industry. A group of 15 companies have come together to form the Southwest Michigan Tooling Collaborative (SMTC) as a way to secure their future. With the help of M-TEC and Southwest Michigan First the SMTC accomplished a lot in the last 6 months:

- MEDC will receive their application for a Michigan Tool and Die Recovery Zone in September
- Design staffs have begun user groups for sharing skills and aligning processes
- M-TEC is working with equipment vendors to develop technical training programs
- M-TEC completed a training survey to create a workforce development plan
- Workload balancing activities are underway to mitigate the peaks and valleys of the industry

M-TEC has long recognized the power of collaboration to meet the learning and development needs of enterprises. We expect the Tool and Die initiative to lead other companies by example to come together not only on projects but also in pursuit of strategic alliances. Learn more about this unique strategy by visiting their website, <http://www.smtc.biz>. For more information contact Cindy Buckley, 269.353.1250.

"My philosophy is that not only are you responsible for your life, but doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment."

- Oprah Winfrey

Center For New Media

M-TEC and the Center for New Media are working together to change the way business is done...technically. This is more than just a slogan. Professional designers and programmers are constantly challenged to learn and integrate the latest programs and enhancements to their project. Customers simply expect it. The internet exposes customers to a dazzling array of web enabled features. They expect their consultants and designers to duplicate it.

We recognize that professionals are extremely savvy and teach themselves most of what they need to know. Our professional development program respects those skills. You'll find just the right blend of show and tell around features and tricks that will improve the final product and decrease the time spent doing it.

Programs will be carefully crafted around specific audiences. For example, we will be offering programs for Macromedia Dreamweaver. One program will be short and directed toward people who need to edit websites, not write code. You'll learn to use what you need and ignore the rest. Of course, we want to know what you need. We have assembled a pool of talented, experienced professionals to deliver these programs. Stay tuned.

Michigan's New High Through Put Screening Center (Update)

The [Michigan High Throughput Screening Center \(MHTSC\)](#) is opening in August.

"We had a few minor delays in the construction project and the delivery of equipment," said [Rob Kilkuskie](#), Senior Director of the MHTSC, "but everything is in place now."

The five thousand square foot laboratory at the Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC) in the Groves contains state-of-the-art robotic equipment and a unique library of one hundred thousand chemical compounds for screening. The MHTSC is a non-profit, contract research lab that facilitates drug discovery research for biotechnology companies and university researchers.

Customer Spotlight

Weber Specialties Company has been supplying high quality stampings, tooling, assemblies, and fabricated components to customers worldwide for over 60 years. Our diverse customer base includes the automotive, medical, furniture, seating (both stadium and transportation) and industrial hardware industries in seven different countries.

Weber Specialties is a full service organization. Whether the customer's needs are for prototype samples or production tooling and stampings, they will benefit from our experience and rapid response. We credit our continued prosperity and growth to the quality of products we produce and the exceptional customer service we provide.

The continuing education of our staff is an integral part of our business philosophy and we depend strongly on M-TEC for our training needs. We value the partnership with M-TEC and the expertise of their staff in designing training specific to Weber Specialties needs.

Our newest facility in Kalamazoo, MI, features production welding and powder coating integrated into a cellular manufacturing environment. Contact us at 269.679.5160 or visit our website at www.weberspecialties.com for more information.

Manufacturers Breakfast Forum

Our next Manufacturers' Breakfast Forum will resume in high gear. Mark your calendars for Friday, October 21st from 7:30-9:00 a.m. We've arranged for a presentation by Evan Harter of Asia Group Sourcing. M-TEC has asked Evan to talk about his observations and impressions regarding

“What lies behind us
and what lies before
us are tiny matters
compared to what lies
within us.”

- Ralph Waldo
Emerson

manufacturing in China, and its effects on U.S. companies. This continues to be a free breakfast meeting sponsored by National City Bank. However, an [RSVP](#) is appreciated.

Also at the October meeting, committee members will present an update on next Spring's manufacturing Career Fair to be held at Kalamazoo Valley Community College targeting the workforce of tomorrow.

It's easier than ever for you to RSVP for the meeting via a [link](#) on our website. Take advantage of this new feature and send a copy of the free breakfast meeting information to a colleague. As always, [Patricia Wallace](#) is available to answer your questions and to take your RSVP by phone at 269.353.1253.

University of Notre Dame Brings Another NEW Professional Development Program to M-TEC

Faculty from the University of Notre Dame Mendoza School of Business will be at the M-TEC to deliver their popular **Supervisory Development Program**. Supervisors, managers and team leaders looking for practical skills for dealing with day-to-day management challenges will benefit from this fast paced event. Participants come from widely varying disciplines and industries; both private and public sectors. Register directly with the University of Notre Dame (<http://executive.nd.edu>) or follow the links from the [M-TEC website](#). Don't delay. This program tends to fill quickly.

We Continue to Remodel For “Our Customers”

During the recent construction at M-TEC, we took the opportunity to give one of our rooms a facelift. Don't miss the opportunity to experience an outstanding new conference room (B1100) available for immediate rental. B1100 features include new furniture, dual projection screens and offers seating for up to 80 people. This room is unique in the fact that it provides not only a view to the outside, but also the lower lobby area. Privacy blinds may be drawn depending on desired visibility. To request a printed folder of our new M-TEC Facility Guide, contact [M-TEC](#) at 269.353.1253 or visit our new website at www.mteckvcc.com.

New Training Resource Added to M-TEC Arsenal

A scale-model, fully automated packaging machine to train production personnel has been recently donated to KVCC's M-TEC to help prepare tomorrow's manufacturing, technical and engineering workforce. Called the “Maximizer,” the 12-foot device replicates a percentage of functions that happen when a product assembly line 75 yards in length is fully operational and staffed by as many as 12 workers in the quality-controlled packaging of either liquid or tablet-form medications and drugs.

So why does M-TEC have this machine and how can it be of value to YOU?

It's a high-tech teaching tool for those already involved in manufacturing and for students who might be considering that kind of a career. But it has other values such as the ability to show the human-machine interface that is part of today's manufacturing. It can also be used to teach the basics of quality production, programming logic controls, and operating safety. Programmed into it are electronic checks and balances designed to keep the quality up by rejecting inferior product. Since it is fully equipped with all kinds of controls and photo eyes, it can train operators to anticipate electronic and mechanical malfunctions along with gauging their response time. This refines their problem-solving and troubleshooting skills thus reducing the amount of down time.

Built in 1999 for what is now Pfizer Global Manufacturing in Portage, the “Maximizer” mirrors the electrical, mechanical and computerized functions that are involved in the components of

“Education is the best provision for the journey to old age.”

- Aristotle

packaging products. “We see the ‘Maximizer’ as going beyond being a teaching and training resource only for students interested in manufacturing and in operating production machinery,” said James DeHaven, the M-TEC executive director. “It epitomizes what mechanical engineering, automated technology, electronics, electrical engineering, and machine-repair technology are all about.” “If the ‘Maximizer’ was designed and built today” DeHaven said, “bringing it to life in a finished state like it is today would exceed \$150,000 in cost.”

Computer Products Resource (CPR)

Are you eligible for Free Training?

Do you have Microsoft Licenses? If so, you may have Microsoft Training Vouchers. As a Microsoft Certified Partner for Learning Solutions, CPR is authorized to accept customer’s Microsoft Software Assurance Training Vouchers.

If you are interested in any Microsoft Training Classes contact CPR to discuss the program, course availability and to schedule your class. You may also visit the CPR Training Calendar at <http://www.cprgr.com/training.htm>. Please note that not all courses are listed on our calendar, but are added at customer’s request.

For more information contact the CPR Customer Support Center at 269.375.9094 and ask to speak with Joe Wood.

This Issue’s Featured Training Highlights

Employers have long recognized the development of workplace skills as essential for creating and maintaining a competitive advantage. Jobs become increasingly more complex, making training and retraining even more important. Following are some of the offerings currently provided at M-TEC.

The Simple & Lean Factory:

[TPS Shop Floor Management](#)

[Lean Tools 1](#)

[Lean Tools 2](#)

[Strategic Planning Process](#)

[Applying Kanban](#)

[Lean4™ Excellence](#)

[Peachtree Complete Accounting Level 1: Virtual Class](#)

[SHRM® Certification Preparation Course](#)

[Certified Purchasing Manager \(CPM\)](#)

[Arc Flash Hazard Safety Training](#)

[Follow this link](#) to Search the entire list of M-TEC training events

For complete program descriptions or to register, please visit our [website](#). We maintain a one-page Course Offering list which is easily downloaded from our website. Click [here](#) to be taken to the Course Offering List now.

We hope you have found the information contained in this newsletter to be useful. If you have comments about this issue or suggestions for future issues, [please let us know](#). We look forward to hearing from you! To unsubscribe please send an e-mail to mtec@kvcc.edu with the word UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line and your email address in the body.

M-TEC at KVCC

7107 Elm Valley Dr
Kalamazoo MI 49009

Phone: 269.353.1253

Fax: 269.353.1299

[Send Us An Email](#)

M-TEC Offerings

September - November 2005



Giving Business a Competitive Edge



M-TEC at the Groves

Complete Course Information & Registration Material Available on Line at www.mteckvcc.com

Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC)
7107 Elm Valley Drive
PO Box 4070
Kalamazoo, MI 49003-4070

Phone: 269.353.1253

Fax: 269.353.1299

E-Mail: mtec@kvcc.edu

Website: www.mteckvcc.com



Dated: 08/25/05

September 2005

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Price</u>
Certified Pump Repair Technician (Flowserve)	Sept 6-9	\$1,295
Lean Tools Skill Set 1 Seminar (SM Consulting)	Sept 8	\$275
Lean Tools Skill Set 2 Seminar (SM Consulting)	Sept 9	\$275
Peachtree Complete Accounting 2004/05 Level 1: Virtual Class	Sept 10-31	\$250
SHRM® Certification Examination Prep	Sept 12-Nov 21	\$895/935
Lean4™ Excellence Workshop (SM Consulting)	Sept 13	\$275
Applying Kanban (SM Consulting)	Sept 16	\$175
Root Cause Pump and Seal Failure Analysis (Flowserve)	Sept 19-20	\$795
Local Anesthesia	Sept 22-Oct8	\$450
Arc Flash Hazard Safety Training (Crown Training & Dev.)	Sept 30	\$270

October 2005

TPS Shop Floor Management (SM Consulting)	Oct 4	\$275
Strategic Planning Process (SM Consulting)	Oct 7	\$275
Supervisory Development (Notre Dame Mendoza College of Bus)	Oct 11-12	\$995
OSHA 521 Guide to Industrial Hygiene (Eastern Michigan Univ)	Oct 11-14	\$750
Residential Builders License Exam Prep	Oct 11-20	\$175
Certified Purchasing Manager Certification Exam Prep Course	Oct 13-Feb 16	\$230
Electrical Code Update	Oct 14-21	\$250
DOT Compliance 49 CFR 172, 704 (Eastern Michigan Univ)	Oct 17-19	\$395
Dynamic Presentations Using PowerPoint (B.Skylis/H.Driver)	Oct 18-19	\$795
Tools for Negotiation Success Part 1 (ISM Satellite)	Oct 20	\$60
Manufacturers' Breakfast Forum	Oct 21	FREE
Adobe Photoshop CS2	Oct 27	\$350

November 2005

MacromediaMX 2004 Flash	Nov 3	\$350
Certified Pump Repair Technician (Flowserve)	Nov 7-10	\$1,295
Dynamic Presentations Using PowerPoint (B.Skylis/H.Driver)	Nov 15-16	\$795

Travel costs too high? Ask us how Video Teleconferencing can help.