



# The M-TEC Monitor

January 2006

Volume 6

“To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.”

- Anatole France

## We Are Celebrating!!!!

We are proud to say it was five years ago this month that we moved into our new M-TEC facility. The \$11 million dollar facility was funded with \$6 million of local donations and \$5 million of state-matched funds. In these past five years, literally thousands of people have enjoyed our state-of-the-art facilities, thus validating the vision of our local leaders.

## Update on M-TEC's Business Incubator Companies

The M-TEC at KVCC is currently home to six incubator companies. The M-TEC incubator space was constructed to help foster entrepreneurship. One in seven new businesses fail within the first five years of operation and M-TEC is striving to reduce that number. Some of our current tenants and the services they provide are:

**BioMedPharmIS** is an information services provider specializing in retrieval, analysis and creation of customized reports from published information for technical and business clients in the fields of life sciences, medicine, and pharmaceutical R&D. Our professional staff of four, with advanced degrees and pharmaceutical industry experience, provide clients with the information required to make effective business decisions. For more information, or to contact BioMedPharmIS, please see: [www.biomedpharmis.com](http://www.biomedpharmis.com).

**Innovative Analytics (IA)** provides data management and statistical analysis for clinical, pharmacogenomic, and biomarker research trials. IA's clients are primarily pharmaceutical, biotech, and medical device companies who are developing therapies and devices which require regulatory approval for use in humans. IA has grown from two to five full time employees with additional contract and part time support. See [www.ianalytics.biz](http://www.ianalytics.biz) for more information.

**The WRITE Phase, LLC**, provides strategic medical writing and consulting for all phases of clinical development to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical-device industries worldwide (see [www.writephase.com](http://www.writephase.com)). Currently, one full-time employee resides at M-TEC.

## Manufacturers' Breakfast Forum – *New Date* February 17th

The Manufacturers' Breakfast Forum will meet again on Friday, February 17, 2006. This will be the first meeting in 2006, and will provide an opportunity to look to the future. After updates on the projects underway, there will be time set aside for brainstorming and planning program topics in the future. Please plan to attend. Sign up on-line at [www.mteckvcc.com](http://www.mteckvcc.com) or email [pwallace@kvcc.edu](mailto:pwallace@kvcc.edu).

### October 2005 Meeting Notes

Evan Harter of Asia Group Sourcing provided a 30-minute presentation with Q&A. Evan has extensive business experience with Chinese and other Asian companies. Frequent travel to the region has helped him develop a deep understanding of the culture, political climate and business strategies of the government and the growing number of privately owned companies.

The presentation included critical influences on the manufacturing sector in China, understanding the impact on U.S. manufacturers, and the growing opportunities for the sale of consumer goods to the large population of China.

“What we have to do is to be forever curiously testing new opinions and courting new impressions.”

- Walter Pater

**Mr. Harter is available to assist in developing your business strategies as they relate to China. M-TEC will schedule free consultation time with Evan for local manufacturers to discuss how China does or doesn't fit in their strategic plans.** Anyone interested in learning more please contact Jim DeHaven at 269-353-1253 or [jdehaven@kvcc.edu](mailto:jdehaven@kvcc.edu).

## RFID Technology Center Offers RFID Workshops

Effective November 15, 2005, the Department Of Defense (DOD) mandated that contractors affix passive RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) tags when shipping packaged operational rations, clothing, individual equipment, tools, personal demand items or weapon system repair parts. This is just the beginning of DOD mandated RFID. Understanding requirements and becoming knowledgeable with RFID technology is “critical” for DOD suppliers.

The RFID Technology Center has partnered with the United States Department of Defense Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs) of Michigan to offer “just-in-time” **RFID Overview Workshops** at six Michigan locations during February and March 2006. Those attending will learn how to prepare for the mandate and maximize the return on investment in the technology. Companies who want to learn more about RFID will also benefit and are welcome to attend.

To learn more about where these workshops are located, topics and who they will benefit, visit <http://www.mteckvcc.com>. The fee to attend is \$59 for the half day session.

The RFID Technology Center is a coalition of organizations and businesses led by Kathy Johnson at M-TEC. Learn more about it by visiting [www.rfidtechnologycenter.com](http://www.rfidtechnologycenter.com) or emailing Kathy at [kjohnson@kvcc.edu](mailto:kjohnson@kvcc.edu).

## Notre Dame Executive Management Program Enrollment Underway

The University of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business is accepting registrations for the 2006 Certificate in Executive Education Program. This represents the third year of partnership with the M-TEC and promises to be an exciting opportunity for learning, career enhancement and networking. The 20-week evening program (which begins March 6th) is broken down into two semesters presented by Notre Dame faculty who combine theory with real-world experience and examples. Participants can apply what they learn in the evening to work the next morning. The objective is to provide the latest business information to meet the fast-paced challenges of today's competitive business environment. Participants in the Kalamazoo location will gather at M-TEC's state-of-the-art facility and fully participate with the program taking place in South Bend by way of interactive video teleconferencing equipment.

A 10% discount is available for participants representing alumni firms or additional participants from the same organization. Contact Patricia Wallace ([pwallace@kvcc.edu](mailto:pwallace@kvcc.edu)) for information and a copy of the brochure or visit the Notre Dame website at <http://executive.nd.edu/certificate>.

## Customer Spotlight

Landscape Forms® is an award-winning designer and manufacturer of outdoor commercial furniture and accessories. Headquartered in Kalamazoo, MI, the product list includes exterior seating systems, benches, tables and chairs, umbrellas, wheelchair-accessible picnic tables, planters, litter receptacles and ash urns. Clients include such well-recognized companies as Cisco Systems, Hewlett Packard, Harvard University, Disney, Chrysler, Mayo Clinic, Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo, Sprint, Gateway, LaGuardia Airport, Microsoft, Nike, Kellogg's Cereal City USA and many others.

Per Laura Dybevik, Manager for People, Landscape Forms has been in business since 1969 and in 1981 adopted the Scanlon Process, developing QUEST (Quality, Understanding, Education,

“Hard work spotlights the character of people; some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don’t turn up at all.”

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Service/Safety, and Teamwork) as part of that plan. “We know we are doing the right job when we continuously improve employee engagement, customer satisfaction and loyalty, and investor satisfaction. Our long-term goal is to flourish, enjoy each other, and have a little fun along the way. In 2005 we launched a ‘custom’ division, Studio 431. Studio 431 builds upon decades of successful experience collaborating with leading professionals to develop ideas into reality.

Over the years, we have gained a reputation for the highest quality site furniture available, the best service, and a fair price. As we continue to grow our involvement with M-TEC has also grown. M-TEC is becoming a partner with us as we develop and grow our “people” resource, providing training that is on target to our needs. A few places to find our product locally are KVCC’s campus, downtown Kalamazoo or the Air Zoo; visit us on the web at [www.landscapeforms.com](http://www.landscapeforms.com).”

## **Manufacturing Career Expo “exposes” a World of Possibilities**

Area high school students have been invited to participate in a Manufacturing Career Fair scheduled to place on Friday morning, February 3, 2006, at Kalamazoo Valley Community College Texas Township Campus. Panelists from Parker Hydraulic Division, Humphrey Products, Kalamazoo Fabricating and Hycorr Machine will lead a discussion on the trends and skills needed by today’s manufacturers. Students and counselors will then rotate through educational breakout sessions that cover basic employment skills that job seekers need to have, and a trade area consisting of manufacturer booths that display products and provide the students opportunities for hands-on experience and discussion with a potential future employer. Equipment and product displays from Landscape Forms, Parker Hydraulic, Humphrey Products, Stryker and others will provide a hands-on experience. The students and counselors will have the opportunity to participate in tours of various manufacturing facilities throughout the area in the early afternoon including American Winding, Eimo Americas and Summit Polymers of Vicksburg; Flowserve, Green Bay Packaging, Humphrey Products, Hycorr Machine, Micro Machine Co., Parker Hydraulic, Stryker and Wright Coating of Kalamazoo; Liberty Molds and Mann+Hummel of Portage; and Weber Specialties of Schoolcraft.

The take away? Manufacturing “is” alive in this region. Employers anticipate more jobs than candidates in the next 5 years.

## **Pfizer Fifth Shift Completes Another Year**

When you think of training on compliance requirements, the term “Fun” probably does not come to mind. Pfizer’s Kalamazoo manufacturing site has changed all that, with a program called “5th Shift”, an innovative approach to conducting annual refresher training for compliance topics. Founded on the premise that learning can be enhanced if it is fun and interactive, this program has turned what was a boring task into a dynamic, efficient and effective learning experience. 5th Shift was created nine years ago for the Chemical division, and has evolved into a program that over 3200 colleagues in Pfizer’s largest plant look forward to each year.

A theme is chosen for 5th Shift, such as magic shows, puzzles, bicycle racing, mountain climbing, and auto racing. The focus for the one-day session is the three main compliance topics for the pharmaceutical industry (Good Manufacturing Practices, Environmental, and Safety). Each year, additional topics are also included. Topics offered this year were Information Security and Integrity. There is also a general Expo that offers 15 exhibits showcasing various initiatives across the site. Interactive displays include topics like virtual firefighting, computer hacking demonstrations, and a laboratory procedure demonstration.

There is a capstone final activity that requires cross-functional teams to work together to apply information learned throughout the day. This year’s final activity required teams to build and race a pinewood derby car while following Standard Operating Procedures, monitoring quality, and using company values to “drive for higher performance”. Six teams competed in a series of heats until there was one winner. Although there was only one winning car, all colleagues are considered winners in this fast-paced, interactive environment where learning is the goal but fun is a key ingredient.

## Southwest Michigan Tooling Collaborative Awarded Recovery Zone

"Adopting the right attitude can convert a negative stress into a positive one."

-Hans Selye

Congratulations are due to the Southwest Michigan Tooling Collaborative SMTC. In late December the Michigan Strategic Fund Board announced that the SMTC has earned a recovery zone designation. The award recognizes their innovative collaborative working relationship and afforded each of the 16 member companies to benefit from tax relief.

The local governmental unit where each tool and die company is located has, by resolution, approved the creation of a 15-year Recovery Zone that would begin January 1, 2006, for Single Business Tax (SBT) purposes and end December 31, 2020. (For property tax purposes, the zone would begin December 31, 2005.) The tax relief will be phased out in 25% increments over the last three years of the zone designation.

L.S. Precision Tool & Die  
Maddox Industries, Inc.  
Casey Tool & Die, Inc.  
Allynn Corporation,  
J.K. Machining,  
Jirgens Modern Tool Corp.  
S & K Tool & Die  
Tri-Mation Industries, Inc.  
Plas-Tech Mold & Design, Inc.  
Travis Creek Tooling, Inc.  
LeVannes, Inc.  
Liberty Mold  
Whitehead Tool & Die  
Dura Mold, Inc.  
Johnson Precision Mold & Engineering, Inc.  
Mayer Tool & Engineering, Inc.

Learn more about the SMTC by visiting their website at [www.smtc.biz](http://www.smtc.biz)

## 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.

[Ethics in Supply Management: Minding Your Actions & Decisions \(ISM Satellite\)](#)

[SHRM Certification Exam Preparation](#)

[Adobe Photoshop CS2](#)

[Increasing Human Effectiveness: Managing the Rapids of Change](#)

[Using Macromedia Flash](#)

[Residential Builders License Exam Prep Course](#)

[Certified Quality Engineer Exam Preparation Course](#)

[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](mailto:mtec@kvcc.edu) with the word UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line and your email address in the body.

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Kalamazoo MI 49009

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[Send Us An Email](#)

# M-TEC Offerings

January - March 2006



## Giving Business a Competitive Edge



### M-TEC at the Groves

Complete Course Information  
& Registration Material  
Available on Line at  
[www.mteckvcc.com](http://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](mailto:mtec@kvcc.edu)



Dated: 01/06/06

### January 2006

Essentials of HR Management  
Project 2003 (CPR)  
Network Plus Certification (CPR)  
Fundamentals of Frontline Leadership (Performance Solutions)  
Excel 2003 (CPR)  
Introduction to InDesign (Center for New Media)  
Access 2003 (CPR)  
Word 2003 (CPR)

### February 2006

Project 2003 (CPR)  
Excel 2003 (CPR)  
Ethics in Supply Mgmt: Minding Your Actions & Decisions (ISM Satellite)  
SHRM Certification Exam Preparation  
Network Plus Certification (CPR)  
Access 2003 (CPR)  
Adobe Photoshop CS2 (Center for New Media)  
Word 2003 (CPR)  
RFID Workshop - Kalamazoo (RFID Technology Center/PTAC)  
RFID Workshop - Grand Rapids (RFID Technology Center/PTAC)

### March 2006

Effective Performance Reviews (Performance Solutions)  
Access 2003 (CPR)  
2273 Managing & Maintaining a MS Win Server 2003 (CPR)  
Certificate in Executive Management (University of Notre Dame)  
Word 2003 (CPR)  
Increasing Human Effectiveness (Edge Learning Institute)  
Managing Teams (Performance Solutions)  
Project 2003 (CPR)  
Using Macromedia Flash (Center for New Media)  
RFID Workshop - Flint (RFID Technology Center/PTAC)  
Residential Builders License Exam Prep Course  
Certified Quality Engineer Exam Prep  
On-The-Job Training (Performance Solutions)  
RFID Workshop - Livonia (RFID Technology Center/PTAC)  
Excel 2003 (CPR)  
RFID Workshop - Gaylord (RFID Technology Center/PTAC)  
RFID Workshop - Marquette (RFID Technology Center/PTAC)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Price</u>
Jan 9 - Feb 6	\$450
Jan 9	\$195
Jan 9-Jan 13	\$2000
Jan 10-Feb 22	\$650**
Jan 11	\$195
Jan 20	\$350
Jan 18	\$195
Jan 24	\$195
Feb 1	\$195
Feb 6	\$195
Feb 9	\$60/\$50
Feb 13-Apr 24	\$895/\$935
Feb 13-17	\$2000
Feb 15	\$195
Feb 17	\$350
Feb 21	\$195
Feb 21	\$59
Feb 23	\$59
Mar 1	\$100
Mar 1	\$195
Mar 6-10	\$2000
Mar 6-Nov 13	\$5295*
Mar 7	\$195
Mar 8-9	\$495**
Mar 8	\$100
Mar 9	\$195
Mar 10	\$350
Mar 14	\$59
Mar 14-23	\$175
Mar 15-May 10	\$500
Mar 15	\$100
Mar 16	\$59
Mar 20	\$195
Mar 22	\$59
Mar 23	\$59

\*Inquire about alumni discount

\*\*Inquire about package pricing