



The M-TEC Monitor

January 2009

Volume 15

"I can accept failure, but I can't accept not trying."

- Michael Jordan

Installation Date of KVCC's Wind Turbine Draws Near

At the end of January, the landscape overlooking KVCC's athletic field will forever change as Entegri Wind Systems, Inc. installs the first 50-kilowatt wind turbine in Michigan. Up to 15 percent of the energy needed to power the technical wing will be produced by the first of a possible three turbines. This investment in energy conservation and technical education is being funded by one of the college's "Innovative Thinking" grants.

"This will be the first installation of this particular turbine in Michigan," said Jim DeHaven, Vice President for Economic and Business Development. It will also be a powerful teaching and learning tool for KVCC's technical programs and serve as the symbol of the college's plans to establish a Wind Energy Center. Other objectives include educating the public about alternative sources of energy and to get high school students involved so they can increase their interest in wind energy programs at the college.

Hospitality Academy Adds It's Mark to M-TEC's Career Academy Programs

The first Hospitality Academy hit the ground running in January with an impressive number of enrollees who will learn the workings of the rooms division and food-and-beverage division in hospitality. This includes front-desk management, reservations, housekeeping, bells services, restaurant service and banquet organization. Those who complete the 157 hours of instruction will receive a certificate in hospitality from KVCC, and also a globally recognized certificate from the American Hotel and Lodging Association.

"Kalamazoo Valley Community College's career academies are designed to help the people who are currently unemployed or have been displaced from their job, even those people who are working and looking to make a career change," said Lesa Strausbaugh, Director of Career Academies at KVCC's M-TEC. The next Academy begins March 9th. For more information, visit the Academy website www.kvcc.edu/training or call Lesa Strausbaugh at 269.353.1289.

New Welding Training Programs for 2009

M-TEC is pleased to offer an expanded array of welding skill-building services. GTAW (TIG), GMAW (MIG) and Robotic Welding training programs are being offered on Saturdays and in the evening for the convenience of participants and employers. The programs have been developed with Fab Masters Company, located in Marcellus, Michigan. This progressive, independent manufacturer of custom aluminum machined and fabricated parts, has earned a reputation for excellence in welding technologies. Classes are structured around steel **or** aluminum. The current schedule of classes can be found on the M-TEC website. The first MIG and TIG on Aluminum begins on January 31st. Visit www.mteckvcc.com or call Kate Mahoney at 269.353.1295 for more information.

Save the Date for the Next Manufacturers' Breakfast Forum

On Friday, March 20th, M-TEC will host Keith Cooley, President & CEO of **Next Energy**, who will speak on the subject of how to diversity into alternative energy areas. A formal announcement on program specifics will be made in February. The breakfast forum will be from 7:30-9:00 AM.

"The big secret in life is there is no secret. Whatever your goal, you can get there if you're willing to work."

- Oprah Winfrey

Lean Manufacturing and Lean Administrative Series

M-TEC at KVCC is proud to present a new Lean Manufacturing and Lean Administrative Series. There will be five seminars presented in this valuable quality-oriented series:

Lean Simulation is an introduction to Lean Manufacturing where participants discover (by making paper airplanes) the impact of Lean Thinking on traditional systems as they implement and track performance of a lean transition. The **Administrative and Shop Floor Value Stream Mapping** seminars allow team members the ability to see the need and gain ownership in implementing the lean tools to reach their identified goals. **5-S Visual Controls for Office and Manufacturing** participants will recognize waste within the working environment and create countermeasures using 5-S principles to eliminate or reduce the wasteful activity.

For more information or to register for one or more of these exciting seminars, please visit our website at www.mteckvcc.com.

2009 KAFI Update

The Kalamazoo Animation Festival International (KAFI) will be held May 14-17, 2009, and promises to be a fun-filled event for the entire community. With the January 16th submission deadline past, KAFI received 555 animated films from 42 countries around the globe (an increase from the 2007 submissions of 502 movies from 37 countries!) More details will be announced over the next few months.

If you would like further information, contact Lauren Beresford at 269.353.1270 or lberesford@kvcc.edu.

Customer Spotlight

[Accu-Mold, Inc.](#) specializes in plastic part design and tooling (injection molds), as well as computer controlled CNC machining of prototypes and precision parts from all industries. They can "knapkin sketch" a concept, turn it into a 3-Dimensional design and either machine a sample or build a mold to make 10 parts or millions of parts. Medical, industrial, entrepreneurial housing and trucking are our core markets. Accu-Mold also specializes in making unique or patented parts for our customers like the medical knife blade holder and dispenser patterned after a PEZ toy. Tooling cost for this part was reduced by 30% through better plastic part design. Accu-Mold has developed many parts for local and global manufacturers of products.

"We specialize in metal to plastic conversion," said Dave Martin, President, "where we take an existing metal part and redesign it for plastic and save 70% weight and 30-50% in cost. In addition, plastic parts do not need to be coated for corrosion and many of the corrosion inhibitors used on metals are not environmental friendly. Accu-Mold strongly supports our local public schools and colleges, and currently about half of our employees are graduates of KVCC and WMU in such fields as accounting and management, as well as designers, CNC programmers, machinists and moldmakers."

Accu-Mold presented design concepts for converting metal parts to plastics at one of M-TEC's Manufacturers' Quarterly Breakfast Forums.

Maximize with Lean Six Sigma

In February, M-TEC is offering a workshop which will help you significantly reduce complexity and achieve major cost reductions to advance your organization to new and higher levels of performance – one tool at a time. Lean Six Sigma is one of today's leading techniques to maximize efficiency and maintain control over each step in the managerial process within systems. You will learn the basics of Lean Six Sigma and receive guidelines to align the right people and resources

"It's not enough we do our best, sometimes we have to do what's required."

- Winston Churchill

within your organization to the right projects to get the maximum results. Participants will get an overview of the methodology and tools. The application of Lean Six Sigma will introduce easy to use tools including simple statistics that can result in dramatic improvements in speed, quality and cost, all of which can give your organization a major strategic advantage. Case studies will be presented to show the applications of how Lean Six Sigma can be used in your organization.

For more information or to register for the Introduction to Lean Six Sigma, please visit our website at www.mteckvcc.com. You can also contact Kate Mahoney at 269.353.1295 or cmahoney@kvcc.edu. Please stay tuned for future Lean Six Sigma offerings in 2009.

Major Internship Initiative Begins in 2009

Businesses and industries are invited to partner with Kalamazoo Valley Community College in a major internship initiative which will be launched beginning January 2009. Funded for a three-year period by the KVCC Foundation, the \$100,000 project seeks to place at least 55 students over a three-year period with enterprises interested in a grow-your-own-workforce alliance.

While the initiative is targeting enterprises involved in bio-medical services, alternative energy, and the digital arts, companies involved in other sectors of the regional economy are also invited to take part. Called the "**Community Partners Internship Program**", the parameters require KVCC students to achieve the skills and education required by the company offering the internship along with 50 percent of the course work in their respective majors. In turn, the participating company who has requested an intern based on the area of study, skills needed, duties expected, etc., will pay up to 50 percent of the internship wages with the rest coming from the \$100,000 grant funds.

The employer essentially gets a low-cost look at a potential permanent employee who could be somebody who has "the right stuff" to be a future leader. It's a classic win-win equation: great experience for those who are selected as interns and a unique ability for employers to find the right people to fit the jobs at hand. For more information about the **Community Partners Internship Program**, contact Diane Vandenberg at 269.488.4793 or dvandenberg@kvcc.edu.

Police Academy Holds it's 73rd Graduation

KVCC celebrated its 73rd Police Academy graduation on Tuesday December 9, 2008. Twenty cadets graduated from the intense 17-week program and were awarded their Certificate of Completion in the Dale B. Lake Auditorium in front of several hundred guests. Detective Matt Wolfe, Portage Police Department, was the guest speaker. He congratulated the class for their accomplishment and spoke with them about the morals, values, and dedication it takes to be a Law Enforcement Officer.

The Kalamazoo Law Enforcement Training Center began the 74th Police Academy on January 15, 2009, and will begin selecting candidates for the 75th Academy in March. Interested individuals should contact the Training Center at 269.488.4336.

New Faces at M-TEC to Support Expanded Services

Lisa Breithaupt - Assistant to the Director of Corporate Training, works directly with Trish Schroeder to deliver training and development services to companies.

Turkessa Hepburn - Training Coordinator, manages the continuing education projects at M-TEC.

Traci Thomas - Administrative Secretary, supports the Career Academy Initiative.

Cathleen (Kate) Mahoney - Training Coordinator, leads the development of seminars and workshops delivered to the business community through M-TEC.

“A good exercise for the heart is to bend down and help another up.”

- Anonymous

University of Notre Dame Certificate in Executive Management

The [Certificate in Executive Management](#) program is only presented once a year, and the **University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business** is currently accepting registrations for the 2009 program which begins March 2nd. This is the sixth year M-TEC has partnered with Notre Dame to offer the prestigious 20-week evening program which is broken down into two, 10-week semesters with the summer months off. The course is taught by Notre Dame faculty who combine theory with real-world experience and examples. This course allows you to apply what you learn in the evening to work the next morning. Participants in the Kalamazoo location will gather at M-TEC's facility and fully participate with the program taking place in South Bend by way of interactive video teleconferencing equipment. Participants also have an open invitation as space permits to visit the South Bend campus and attend a session or two in their location. As an extra bonus, each class is taped to enable participants to review or catch up on missed sessions via the Internet.

A 10% discount is available for participants representing alumni firms or additional participants from the same organization. You can contact M-TEC's [Kate Mahoney](#) at 269.353.1295 for program details and a copy of the course brochure. Register directly through Notre Dame by visiting their website at <http://executive.nd.edu/certificate> or call Chris Cushman at 800.631.3622 for further details. The M-TEC website also provides additional information and a direct registration link to at www.mteckvcc.com.

Current Training Offerings

The menu of workshops, seminars and training events changes rapidly. You'll find the complete list of opportunities on our website. The following list highlights our recent additions.

[Fundamentals of Front Line Leadership](#)
[TIG Welding for Aluminum](#)
[MIG Welding for Aluminum](#)
[Basic Industrial Blueprint Reading](#)
[Michigan Residential Builders License Program](#)
[Fundamentals of Applied Electricity](#)
[Paramedic Refresher Training](#)
[Basic Truck Driver Training](#)
[SHRM® Certification Examination Prep](#)
[Introduction to MS Project 2003](#)
[Lean Simulation](#)
[Shop Floor Value Stream Mapping](#)
[Employee Survival Guide to Change](#)
[Workplace Spanish for Customer Service – Level 2](#)
[Value Stream Mapping for Office](#)
[5-S for the Office](#)
[5-S for Manufacturing](#)
[Effective Meeting Management](#)
[Managing Projects](#)

[Follow this link](#) to search the entire list of M-TEC training events. For complete program descriptions or to register on-line, please visit www.mteckvcc.com. We maintain a one-page [Course Offering](#) list which is easily downloaded.

We hope you have found the information contained in this newsletter to be useful. Share your comments...we'd like to hear from you. If you wish to unsubscribe, please send an e-mail to mtec@kvcc.edu with the word NEWSLETTER UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line and your e-mail address in the body.

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Visit Our Website:
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M-TEC Offerings



*Giving Business a
Competitive Edge*

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Visit: www.mteckvcc.com
for information on:

- course offerings
- events
- on-line registration
- facility rental & directions



January 2009

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Price</u>
Hospitality Academy	Jan 5-Feb 6	\$750
Fundamentals of Front Line Leadership	Jan 27-Mar 4	\$650/550
MIG Welding – Aluminum	Jan 31-Mar 25	\$2300
TIG Welding – Aluminum	Jan 31-Mar 25	\$2300

February 2009

Basic Industrial Blueprint Reading	Feb 2-4	\$275
Michigan Residential Builders License Program	Feb 3-Mar 4	\$750
Fundamentals of Applied Electricity	Feb 4-Mar 4	\$400
Paramedic Refresher Training	Feb 7-22	\$475
Basic Truck Driver Training	Feb 9-Mar 6	\$5190
SHRM® Certification Exam Prep	Feb 16-Apr 27	\$1020
Introduction to Microsoft Project 2003	Feb 17	\$189
Lean Simulation	Feb 18	\$150
Shop Floor Value Stream Mapping	Feb 19	\$275
Employee's Survival Guide to Change	Feb 19	\$200
Introduction to MS Project 2007	Feb 24	\$200

March 2009

University of Notre Dame Certificate in Executive Management	Mar 2-Nov 16	\$5295
Fundamentals of Applied Electricity	Mar 3-12	\$400
Upgrading to Microsoft Office 2007	Mar 3	\$100
Workplace Spanish for Customer Service (Level 2)	Mar 4-Apr 1	\$250
Value Stream Mapping for Office	Mar 5	\$275
5-S for the Office	Mar 6	\$150
5-S for Manufacturing	Mar 6	\$150
Basic Truck Driver Training	Mar 9-Apr 3	\$5190
Effective Meeting Management	Mar 11	\$150
Building Effective Teams Series	Mar 18	\$250
Introduction to MS PowerPoint 2007	Mar 24	\$200
Managing Projects	Mar 25	\$250