

# GEAR UP:

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR A  
WORLD CLASS MANUFACTURING  
EDUCATION



Northeast Wisconsin Technical College  
*Educational Foundation Inc.*

[www.nwtc.edu/gearup](http://www.nwtc.edu/gearup)



**PAUL RAUSCHER, CEO**  
EMT International

Dear Fellow Manufacturers,

We all know the need for a talent pool of skilled, engaged people to fill our workforce needs. With the retirements of the baby boom generation and the growing needs of our manufacturing companies, the shortage in skills means this gap is going to persist for some time.

How we as a manufacturing community in one of the highest per capita manufacturing regions in the country address this gap will determine if we can keep our industry thriving into the future. One critical way to providing the skilled workforce of the future is to support our technical colleges and the students who attend them. Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) has been the backbone of providing that training for over one hundred years. The College has been increasing their efforts in this area by expanding facilities and programs that provide the type of skilled workers in demand by manufacturers. However, there still is a shortage of graduates in many of the skills sought by companies. Why is that?

One of the main reasons identified is that many students can't afford the cost of getting an advanced education beyond high school. Even though NWTC offers one of the lowest costs per credit, it is still beyond the reach of many students. This is especially true for those potential students who come from low income families. Many of these individuals will never enter NWTC and are at risk of living their adult lives in poverty because they lack the skills to get into a career that can provide a middle-class living.

This is why the NWTC Foundation formed a campaign to raise \$1 million for scholarships to be given to students who enter programs that support manufacturing careers. This will be a segregated fund only for this purpose. We will be asking manufacturing companies within the NWTC service area to contribute.

If we manufacturers look at this as an opportunity to expand our training funds and help deserving students to enter a career in manufacturing, then this is a win/win. On top of filling our company needs for a skilled workforce, we will be helping our community. Why not spend our money to support programs that help people out of poverty rather than help them when they are in poverty?

Let's show the rest of the state, country, and the world that NEW companies plan to continue to be "A World Class Manufacturing Region." You will be contacted in the near future to ask for your support in this effort, and there are many different options for giving and company recognition. Please join with me and other manufacturers to "Gear Up" and ensure we have the skilled workforce we all need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Rauscher". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

## A Thriving Manufacturing Region.

Manufacturing accounts for 23% of Northeast Wisconsin's region base, according to the NEW Manufacturing Alliance, a partnership of more than 150 manufacturers, educational institutions, workforce development boards, chambers of commerce, and economic development and government entities in the 18-county New North region. The region hosts nearly one-half of Wisconsin's largest privately held companies with the strongest performing industries including transportation equipment manufacturing, dairy product manufacturing, foundries (pulp, paper, paperboard manufacturing and converting), electrical equipment manufacturing, machinery manufacturing, and fabricated metal product manufacturing.

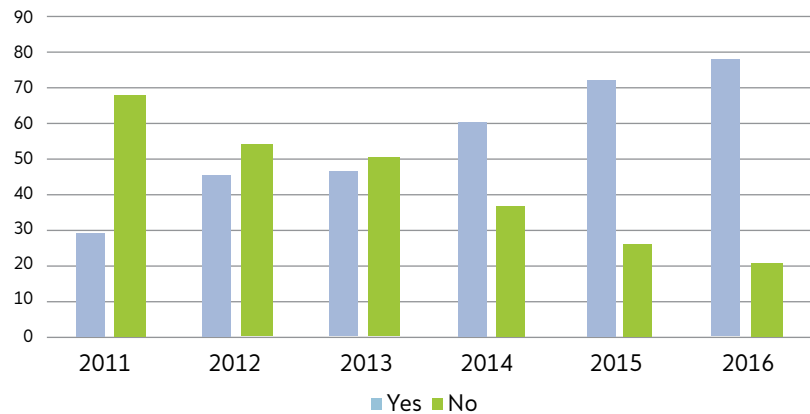
## A Need for Talent.

More than half the manufacturers surveyed in the *NEW Manufacturing Alliance 2016 Vitality Index* said they plan to modernize their facilities and nearly a quarter of them plan to expand; however, 78% of local manufacturing companies surveyed anticipate having difficulty hiring qualified workers. The majority of unfilled manufacturing positions do not require a bachelor degree, but do require education and training beyond high school.

*NWTC produces Machinist/CNC Machinists, Welders, and Maintenance Mechanics which are three out of the top five most difficult manufacturing positions to fill in Northeast Wisconsin.*

According to the 2015 Brown County Workforce & Economic Profile, 68,837 people are projected to be employed in manufacturing jobs in Northeast Wisconsin by 2022. Also noted by the *NEW Manufacturing Alliance 2016 Vitality Index*, the majority of companies are hiring in larger numbers to meet the challenge of a retiring baby boom population. Fifty-one percent of individuals employed in manufacturing in Northeast Wisconsin are age 45 and older, representing 20,900 jobs in the NWTC district.

### Will your company have difficulty finding talent?



# Responding to Demand.



NWTC continues to modify its World Class manufacturing programming based upon feedback from employers. NWTC's newly remodeled Manufacturing Technology Center added 2,500 square feet to meet program demand and modified shop layouts to closely resemble local machine shops. NWTC has leveraged partnerships with equipment suppliers such as Miller Electric to allow for the expansion of welding lab facilities in Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay, and Marinette. Large portions of the recently passed referendum will be spent to expand manufacturing programs such as the creation of an Advanced Welding Fabrication lab in Green Bay, Marinette and Sturgeon Bay.

As a result, NWTC's manufacturing related programs have grown over 260% in ten years: from 150 to over 550 program students in 2016. NWTC produces the largest number of manufacturing-related program graduates among the sixteen Wisconsin technical colleges with 357 students graduating in 2015. Highly skilled instructors and engagement with industry partners have ensured that programs, such as Electro-Mechanical Technology, Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Automation Engineering Technology, Prototype and Design, and Mechanical Design Technology have earned a reputation for producing quality graduates. Flagship programs such as Welding and Machine Tool Operations/ CNC each produce over 100 graduates per year, accounting for one of every four welders and machinists produced within Wisconsin. However, even more graduates are needed to meet industry demand.

A welder wearing a green protective suit, a yellow hard hat, and a welding mask is working in a factory. The welder is focused on their task, with bright sparks and light emanating from the welding point. The background shows industrial equipment and a workshop environment.

## Support beyond the NWTC Campus.

NWTC has worked to train high school technical education teachers allowing high school students to take introductory level college manufacturing courses while in high school. The College has also met the needs of high schools by creating mobile labs and partnerships, such as Bay Link Manufacturing, a high-precision manufacturing lab located at Green Bay West High School.

NWTC has also led the way in the creation of innovative partnerships allowing students to complete their bachelor degrees. The College has partnered with the University of Wisconsin – Stout for students to complete their Bachelor of Science degree in Manufacturing Engineering while remaining in the Green Bay area. This program has had 97% employment in the past three years. In 2014, NWTC worked with NEW ERA (Northeast Wisconsin Educational Resource Alliance), three other technical colleges, and two University of Wisconsin institutions to develop a pipeline where NWTC students can now continue toward a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology – Mechanical, Electrical or Environmental at either University of Wisconsin Green Bay or the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.



## Companies Can Not Afford to Miss This Opportunity.

**Even though tuition at NWTC is much lower than at a four-year college, cost continues to be one of the greatest barriers to graduation.**

Of 1,000 NWTC students surveyed this year, 47% said they were likely or very likely to withdraw due to finances, and an additional 24% said they were somewhat likely to withdraw due to finances. Only about 53% of NWTC students will continue in the same program after their first year.

Studies show financial assistance can increase access to postsecondary education, increase enrollment intensity, and accelerate academic progress.

College faculty and staff see students struggle every day, and for this reason, 88% of NWTC employees give financially to the Educational Foundation to support student success. Many students are proud to be the first in their families to receive a college credential and enter the workforce with not just with a job, but with a career. Please join NWTC in giving these students the best chance at success. Your generous support can turn a financially struggling student into a highly skilled manufacturer worker.

# Gear Up:

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR A WORLD CLASS MANUFACTURING EDUCATION

### GIVING OPTIONS

**Gear Up Scholarships** Combine giving power with other donors to assist deserving students

**Named Scholarship** Award in the name of your business or pay tribute to loved ones. Minimum \$5,000 (can be payable over 5 years)

**Named Scholarship Endowment** Create a lasting legacy - endowed funds are invested over the long term to provide permanent annual scholarship support through earned interest. Minimum \$10,000 (can be payable over 5 years)

For more information on giving opportunities, please contact:



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**Eligible programs:** Automation Engineering Technology, Electro-Mechanical Technology, Industrial Maintenance, Machine Tool – CNC Technician, Machine Tool Operation, Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Manufacturing Operations Management, Prototype and Design, Supply Chain Management, Welding, Electrical Engineering Technology, Mechanical Design Technology, Accounting, IT, Marketing, Business Analyst, Digital Marketing, Professional Sales

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### Major Gift Recognition through Facility Naming Opportunities

Naming opportunities are a permanent meaningful way for the College to recognize extraordinary support of individuals and businesses who have committed to student success.

In addition to the satisfaction that comes from changing the lives of students, donors can choose to name scholarships and college facilities after themselves or pay tribute to loved ones.

**Please contact Crystal Harrison at (920) 498-5541 for more information.**

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