

Hoshin Kanri used for Strategic Planning

An industry leader in producing end mills, saws, and router bits with close tolerances and consistent performance,



RobbJack (www.robbjack.com) engaged the Sierra College Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) to facilitate a retreat using Hoshin Kanri methods. The goals were to set direction for the company, and develop one and three year action plans. Hoshin Kanri means "true north" in Japanese. It is a method to identify strategic goals and involve leaders in identifying the necessary steps to execute the plans to achieve objectives.

According to Dave Baker, RobbJack President, the Hoshin Kanri format was very different. "The structured process helped us fill in the missing pieces in our strategic planning," said Baker. "It enabled us to prioritize 'drivers' and select action steps that give us the most bang for the buck."

Lean Training Offered in June

In partnership with the Continuous Improvement Network of employers, Sierra College CACT will offer two 1-day workshops on Lean Principles.

WHEN:
June 26 or June 28

WHERE:
Rex Moore Electrical Contractors
6001 Outfall Circle
Sacramento, CA 95828

COST:
\$85 per person
(includes box lunch)

RESERVATIONS:
Judy Schmidt (916) 747-2162
or judithschmidt@sierracollege.edu

Employers Share Supply Chain Training

Regional employers involved with the new Continuous Improvement Network (CIN) asked Sierra College CACT to provide multi-employer training in the Basics of Supply Chain Management.



There were 14 participants who completed the course. Comments included: "I think this will change the way our company approaches our processes," "The instructor used our businesses as examples," and "Gaining knowledge of supply chain opened up my eyes to what we may have to address."

Trent Johnson, Line Maintenance Manager, Telefunken, guided Truckee High School students on a tour of the Telefunken facility in Roseville. Students saw the high-tech production environment where chips are produced for use in anti-locking braking automotive electronics systems.



Customized Employee Training

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ENTRY LEVEL WELDERS TRAINED

Members of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) at the Placer Energy Center in Auburn are getting introductory welding training through a Job Development Incentive Training Fund (JDIF) administered by the North Orange Community College District CACT. Sierra College instructor, Bill Wenzel, is preparing students to test to the American Welding Society Structural Steel welding code.



The class meets three times a week over six weeks, explained Wenzel. "They will weld a 3/8" limited thickness plate in the vertical position with an E7018 electrode," said Wenzel. "If the student's weld coupons pass the destructive bend test, the welder will be qualified in the Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) process to weld up to 3/4" thickness in flat, horizontal and vertical positions using a multitude of welding electrodes." SMAW is a manual arc welding process used extensively in maintenance and repair, industrial fabrication and construction of steel structures. In a similar class last year, nine students were certified.

These students are actively seeking employment; if your company is hiring welders, contact Carol Pepper-Kittredge Director, Sierra College CACT at (916) 660-7517 or cpepperkittredge@sierracollege.edu.

 Join Our List to occasionally receive updates; go to sierracollege training.com or text your email address to 22828.

Enterprise Resource Planning Training

Rex Moore electrical contractors and engineers (www.rexmoore.com) in Sacramento benefited from training in Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) according to David Moore, President. "Our executive management team attended the training," said Moore. "We are now in a much better position to effectively evaluate ERP systems as well as envision our system needs 10 - 15 years into the future."

The North Orange Community College District CACT provided Responsive Training Funds, through a partnership with Sierra College, to partially offset training costs. Rex Moore qualified for training funds as a result of filling new positions with highly skilled workers.



Air Systems Benefits from Marketing

Air Systems (www.airsystems1.com), a commercial HVAC and plumbing contractor based in Sacramento and known for innovative design and installation, engaged Sierra College CACT to provide marketing coaching. The growing company just acquired Heathorn Mechanical Services in San Leandro and needed outside marketing expertise explained Garry Westover. CACT consultant Karen Fraser-Middleton coached staff and gathered customer testimonials. "This is the best money that we've ever spent on marketing," said Westover.

Chris Merino, Sales Manager, Air Systems agrees. "Since working with Karen, we have a clear direction for our marketing efforts," said Merino. "The testimonials detail our project successes and can be used in multiple ways to support business development. Sierra College CACT got us started on a focused marketing process."



Earn Sustainable Resource Management Certification

The California Resource Recovery Association (www.crra.com) offers certification in Sustainable Resource Management. In May, Sierra College CACT hosted two classes: Introduction to Zero Waste and Introduction to Recycling.

The Zero Waste Business Council will host its first National Conference (www.uszwbc.org) June 26-27 in Costa Mesa, CA. The organization is developing a third party certification for businesses and the conference will feature best practices from businesses including Ricoh Electronics Inc., Sierra Nevada Brewery and Albertsons."