ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MANAGEMENT AFFILIATION WITH ROSEDALE TECH MARKS SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES

One year ago today, someone who saw a vehicle marked “PMI” driving around Northwest Pennsylvania may have questioned what this acronym stood for or may have not made notice of it at all. But today, if someone saw a newly wrapped Jeep Commander decked out marked PMI and traveling the streets, chances are they will be certain to know who it belongs to.

This August marked the one year anniversary Precision Manufacturing Institute became affiliated with Rosedale Technical College in Pittsburgh. The affiliation has provided PMI with the management support, training, and resources needed to bring the school back to its original glory and establish a business model to sustain continued growth. During this period of time, significant strides have been made to enhance the brand and operation of the Meadville-based higher education institution.

“What attracted Rosedale’s management team to this opportunity was that we know the training done at PMI provides necessary job skills that the industry needs,” said PMI’s Chairman Dennis Wilke. “The jobs are there and the economy needs these types of jobs more than ever. PMI’s training programs are set up to fill these needs.”

Wilke is the President and Director of Rosedale Tech, and was one of the key decision makers for partnering with PMI. After joining Rosedale Tech in 2005, student enrollment has nearly tripled and the school consistently ranks high in the Pittsburgh Business Times Best Places to Work surveys for southwestern PA.

While Rosedale Tech management currently holds 57% control of the board, Wilke explains that both schools remain two separate entities, each bringing their own set of resources and support at Rosedale for guidance when particular issues arise. They are good people that I know and trust will give me valuable information and advice.”

In July, PMI noted a major milestone welcoming the largest starting class at the school in years with 22.

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PMI LEADS TRAINING PROGRAM WITH DEPARTMENT OF ARMY

In an effort to assist in continued education for members of the U.S. military, Precision Manufacturing Institute has developed a partnership with the Department of Army to conduct year-round basic machining training programs held at Fort Belvoir in Springfield, VA and PMI’s campus in Meadville, PA.

Founded during World War I as Camp A.A. Humphreys, Fort Belvoir (renamed in 1930) serves as headquarters for multiple defense agencies of the U.S. Military, such as the Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Technical Information Center, the United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, Missile Defense Agency and Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Fort Belvoir is home to the Virginia National Guard’s 29th Infantry Division as well as 19 different agencies and direct reporting units of the Department of Army.

When searching for a higher education technical school to partner with, the Department of Army searched for schools throughout the east coast that were able to offer flexibility with their schedule. After an extensive search, PMI was the right fit for the program offering both flexibility and a convenient location.

Larry Knapp, CNC Machinist Instructor at PMI, leads the basic machining program. While Larry has participated in previous activities at Fort Belvoir in 2012, this is his first time leading a training program for military members.

The year-round program splits time between Fort Belvoir and the PMI campus. According to Larry, up to eight two-week courses are authorized to be conducted at Fort Belvoir and up to four four-week courses are held at PMI annually through May 2016. As part of the partnership, the U.S. Department of Army has installed two CNC machines at PMI that will be used to train members of the military during their time spent at PMI’s campus.

The basic machining program includes topics, such as safety in the shop, tolling for both mills & lathes and their applications, the proper use of tooling, and understanding machine operation.

Each day consists of approximately eight hours of training; the first two hours are spent in the classroom learning theory, and the remaining six hours are spent in the shop where students work with machines like Hardinge Toolroom lathes and ProtoTrax Mills.

Throughout the course, students are assigned specific projects that require the use of their newfound machine skills.

The skills learned during the program prepare the civilian military members with training they can use in the research and development lab working on tasks that will aid in active combat, such as weapon construction and tracking systems.

“I’m really enjoying the program,” said Larry. “The students are extremely intelligent and pick up on the coursework quickly. I enjoy working on the machines at Fort Belvoir. I love teaching as it is, but being able to participate in this kind of program is a great opportunity.”
3D Technology: The Future of Manufacturing

According to a recent article in Forbes Magazine, 3D printing is on the rise of reshaping manufacturing processes in America. The benefit of this process is that reshaping manufacturing processes in
America. The benefit of this process is that manufacturers will have the ability to produce "low-volume and highly-specialized products which cannot be manufactured by traditional manufacturing techniques." The article also states that the current downfall of 3D printing is the
talent and understanding of how to use the technology, but once manufacturers are educated on the capabilities of 3D printing, they will then have the ability and know-how to create customized prototypes that fit into their specific production style, as well as develop new products and services. In an effort to educate students of this growing technology practice, PMI has agreed to participate in a short-term pilot program and will keep a 3D printer on consignment at the school. The printer, a Stratasys UPrint SE Plus 3D, is a mid-size model with a listing price of approximately $20,900.

The printer is owned by Cinquest Manufacturing Solutions. Upon installation, PMI welcomed members of local manufacturing companies to attend an informative presentation on the printer, led by Cinquest sales representative, Shawn Spinneweb.

To operate the 3D printer, the user must first program the desired item using a CAD program that is functional with the 3D printer, such as SolidWorks 3D software. After the item is drawn, the user must then convert the drawing to an STL file type, which will then allow for the printer to read and produce the item. The model on-site at PMI can print an item with approximate dimensions of 8" x 8" x 6". Turnaround time to print an item can range from 10 minutes to several hours depending on the size and density of the item.

CNC Instructors Larry Knapp and Jim Grossett have begun to incorporate the 3D printer into their daily lessons and showing students how to make workholding devices, which are items that hold parts of odd shapes in place in a CNC machine so that the piece can be machined properly. In addition to using the printer as training in classes, PMI invites local companies to stop in and test the machine.

Currently, the consignment agreement is for a four-month period; however, PMI Director Jim Shore believes they will be re-evaluating the contract to extend the agreement further.

"3D printers aren't going away," said Shore. "I predict that within 10-15 years, 3D printers will begin to be found in households across the country. This is a good skill for our students to learn while at PMI."
MacLean-Fogg Component Solutions Provides PMI Students with Employer Insight

A leading supplier of fastener components, engineered components, and linkage & suspension components, MacLean-Fogg Component Solutions (MFCS) serves many diverse industries with facilities nationwide. On August 5, the students, instructors and staff toured the company’s Saugertown facility to learn about the various aspects of the company as well as the possible opportunities available to the students after graduation.

After a 15-minute presentation by MFCS’s Vice President General Manager, Ken Guity, about the future growth plans of the company, students were split up into three groups and proceeded out into the shop. Each group was lead by a company representative who showed the students how their facility operated, and how they make parts for key industries, such as automotive, mining, heavy-duty truck, military and defense, road construction, and fire safety to name a few. After the tour, everyone gathered in the conference room for a Q&A session.

After the visit, some of the students commented about the tour of the facility. They said:

“It was good seeing everything I am learning in class being put to use in a real work environment. I could definitely see myself working there.” – Philip Jackson, Jr.

“It was clean for such a big facility. They had nice, new equipment and management seemed like they want to expand.” – J.R. Lindsey

“It was nice to get out and see what the industry is like and it was a nice facility. It is a good possibility that I will work for MacLean-Fogg after graduation.” – Hunter Ford

“They seem to be embracing the 6S production concept. They are up-to-date on the technology they have. There seems to be a large amount of employees there with over 20 years.” – John Moran

The recent tour was just one of the many steps taken to enhance the professional relationship between PMI and MFCS. In June, representatives of the company visited the PMI campus and learned about the school’s vision for continued growth. In addition, MFCS has donated various tools to PMI to utilize in the classrooms.

PMI Director Jim Shore is very pleased with the relationship. “This connection is a great fit for PMI. MacLean-Fogg is going through a period of growth right now just like us. When we went to visit their facility, it was amazing to find out that the average employee at the company has been there for 17+ years. I look forward to continuing to grow the relationship and see PMI graduates working for the company in the future.”

“Building these types of relationships with industry leaders is how we are going to grow and how the word is going to get out about the training we do at PMI,” said Shore.

CNC STUDENTS TAKE ON TECH TOKENS

Students from the CNC Machinist program utilized their trade skills to create tokens for PMI’s sister school, Rosedale Technical College. The tokens, known as Tech Tokens, are utilized at the Pittsburgh campus as a system to award Rosedale’s faculty and staff for outstanding performance.

Tech Tokens can be redeemed for things like Rosedale apparel, gift cards, spa treatments, and even an extra day off.

The students participated in every step of the project from cutting out the metal tokens, smoothing the edges, and programming the design into the Fanuc Robodrill CNC Mill. Upon completion, the students produced 500 tokens. The Tech Token project gave students the opportunity to practice a fast-paced production on large quantity items.

Welcome New Students

**Electric Arc Welding:**
- Kenneth Fentem
- Jacob Gleichorn
- James Highhouse
- Quinton Jonas
- Peter Kautsky
- Milan Kostolnik
- Shawn Kozlowski
- Coby Newhard

**CNC Machinist:**
- Camden Barclay
- Jessie Barnes
- Jason Durish

Hunter Ford
- Levi Jones
- Dustin Kelly
- Ray Manuel
- Jordan Wade
- Derrick Weber

John McClintock
- Jacob Proper
- Doug Yurkanin
- Ryan Bartley

Camden Barclay
- Jessie Barnes
- Jason Durish

(Clarion Student)
On July 24, the NWPA NTMA Education Foundation in partnership with the Crawford Heritage Foundation held their annual scholarship reception at The Meadville Country Club. Five PMI students received scholarships, a combined total of $4,750. This year, a total of 11 students received scholarships. Since founded in 1999, the Education Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, has awarded over $52,500 in scholarship donations and over $80,000 in general grant donations to help support the continuing education of those men and women pursuing careers in the tooling and manufacturing industry. Currently, there are seven scholarships available through the NWPA NTMA Education Foundation that range from $500 to $3,500 per scholarship. Students have the opportunity to apply for more than one of these scholarships.

**AWARDS PICNIC**

PMI would like to congratulate the following students on their efforts in the classroom, who demonstrate quality performance in attendance and academics. Students received their awards during a school picnic on August 6, 2014.

**Perfect Attendance**
For the term April 14 through July 18, 2014
- James Beil – Electric Arc Welding
- Al Kolan – Mechatronics Technology
- Juan Moore – CNC Machinist
- John Moran – Mechatronics Technology
- Eric Reagle – CNC Machinist
- Phil Terrill – Mechatronics Technology

**Instructor’s Choice**
Cumulative attendance through July 18, 2014
- James Beil – Electric Arc Welding
- Al Kolan – Mechatronics Technology
- John Moran – Mechatronics Technology
- Eric Reagle – CNC Machinist

**ACE Award**
Cumulative 4.0 GPA through July 18, 2014
- Dean Koseff – Mechatronics Technology
- John Moran – Mechatronics Technology
- Bronson Yanc – Electric Arc Welding

Eric Reagle Pursues Career in Machining and Pizza

CNC Machinist student **Eric Reagle** has spent his entire life around his family’s pizza shop, Pasquale’s Pizza & Subs. Spending 56+ hours at the shop, people may have thought he was next to take over the family business. However, Eric had something else in mind; he wanted to learn the trade of machining.

Pasquale’s, located in Titusville, PA, has been in business since the 1950s. It wasn’t officially part of the family until 1983 when Eric’s grandmother bought it. Then in 1986, Eric’s mother took over ownership. Today, Pasquale’s is managed by Eric’s father, while his mother owns and operates her second business, a bakery also located in Titusville.

Eric, one of five boys in the Reagle family, explained his reasoning for pursuing a career in machining. “I didn’t want to fight over the business with my brothers,” said Eric. “I have friends who are CNC Machinists and went to PMI (Justin Cubbon and Matt Aul). I thought it would be fun to get into and decided to try it out.”

While Eric is at school, he still helps out at the pizza shop about 20 hours a week doing whatever is needed, like cooking, delivering, and cleaning.

Eric stated that he is very pleased with his career path and his decision to go to PMI. “I’m very happy with my decision to come to PMI. The instructors are great and know quite a bit about the industry. I especially love the shop atmosphere. Now that we are on the machines, time flies by.”

Eric stated that his parents are proud of his decision. “They both are so happy that I chose something outside of the pizza shop.”

Projected to graduate January 15, 2015, Eric already has begun to receive job offers at various companies in the area.

In the future, Eric’s goals are to one day buy the shop from his parents and have one of his brothers manage it while he remains in the manufacturing industry.
August 14, PMI hosted an American Red Cross blood drive on campus. Faculty, staff and students signed up to give the gift of life by donating a pint of blood. Each donor was registered to win prizes donated by Roff School Tavern, 1776 Bar and Grill, and Hailwood Golf Course. Overall, there were 23 donors and 18 pints of blood collected.

May 16th Graduates

**Electric Arc Welding:**
- Greg Egger
- Kyle Petty
- Matt Vargason
- Jason Barickman
- Lane Kenyon
- Kaitlyn Kerr

**CNC Machinist:**
- Vitaly Meyer
- Christian Robey
- Mike Steider
- William Consiglio
- Tyler Greggs
- Shawn Loll
- Adam Rinker

**Mechatronics Technology:**
- Kurt Perotti
- Charlie Watkins
- Jason Fitzgerald
- Dylan Mosher
- Phillip Nagy
- Tyler Schwab

*SAVE THE DATE*

**TECHFEST**

**OCTOBER 2-3, 2014**

Precision Manufacturing Institute
764 Bessemer Street, Suite 105
Meadville, PA 16335

**For more information, call PMI at (814) 333-2415**
Cody Mosier and Tyler Wendel First to Complete Quala-Die, PMI Education Agreement

When CNC Machinist graduates Cody Mosier and Tyler Wendel started their high school co-op programs at Quala-Die, Inc., neither realized the opportunities that would be offered to them upon graduation. Not only did they receive live work experience in the manufacturing industry, but they were also offered the opportunity to further their education with guaranteed employment.

Now officially employees of the St. Marys Company, Cody and Tyler were the first students to complete the education agreement program between Quala-Die and PMI. The education agreement, which begins at the high school level, starts when a student applies to participate in the company’s co-op program. Those students selected for the co-op then spend part of their day at school and the rest of the time at the manufacturing facility. Students begin the program learning janitorial skills around the shop and then get transitioned into basic machining work. The hours collected during the co-op are transferrable to high school credits at their schools.

Upon high school graduation, Quala-Die takes the co-op to the next level for those students who show an interest in continuing to work in the tool & die industry. Students are invited to participate in an employee commitment agreement, which provides the opportunity for further education as well as receive guaranteed employment at Quala-Die.

Rick Shatz, Office Manager at Quala-Die, explained the importance of this program to the company.

“Our goal is to encourage students with an interest in the tool & die industry to participate in this program. It’s a tremendous trade to get into,” said Rick. “We are committed to supporting our employees by furthering their skillsets through this education agreement with PMI.”

Rick also mentioned that they have previously sent employees to nearby schools for additional training, but this is the first time they have sent students to PMI for the newly formed education agreement.

“I’ve known about PMI for many years. When we were looking at different schools in the area to partner with, PMI had the class structure and term length that fit our needs as well as the students’ needs,” said Rick.

While students are attending classes at PMI, Quala-Die offers the necessary financial support for the students, such as room and board.

After Cody and Tyler graduated and returned to work, Rick was pleased with their elevated performance.

“Cody and Tyler are very articulate and great young men. They have shown great promise and have committed themselves to the tool & die industry. While at PMI, their skills have excelled tremendously. They have now set the bar for future students who participate in the program,” said Rick.

Tyler Wendel, who has been with Quala-Die for five years now, is very pleased with the new skillset he learned at PMI.

“I feel that the education I received at PMI has impacted my work performance,” said Tyler. “Prior to going to PMI, I didn’t know how to operate a CNC machine. The equipment we got to work on at PMI was great. I’d definitely recommend this program to anyone interested in the manufacturing industry.”

For more information about Quala-Die, visit www.quala-die.com.

For companies interested in program-specific training for their employees, contact PMI at (814) 333-2415.

CRAWFORD COUNTY FAIR

Did you see PMI at this year’s historic Crawford County Fair? Throughout the week, members of the faculty and staff were stationed at a booth in the Home and Garden building. While there, they enjoyed spending time talking with potential students and employers. Some of PMI’s current students, like Tom Crane and his mother, stopped at the booth to say hello.

JUST HIRED:

CNC:
Tyler Greggs – GE Transportation
Charlie Watkins – Vertical Steel
Shawn Loll – Shaw Industries, Inc.
Adam Rinker – Shaw Industries, Inc.

Mechatronics Technology:
Tyler Schwab – Roser Technologies, Inc.
Jason Fitzgerald – GE
Dylan Mosher – Corry Forge
Phil Nagy – Modern Technologies

Electric Arc Welding:
Jason Barickman – Universal Well Services, Inc.
Mike Steider – Universal Well Services, Inc.
Randy Drake – Universal Well Services, Inc.
Matt Vargason – Colonial Machine, Inc.
Lane Kenyon – Miller Welding
Brenton Ruhlman – Miller Welding
PMI WELCOMES JEFF WOODS

In early August, Jeff Woods joined PMI’s team as a Mechatronics Instructor. With over 29 years of experience in machine repair, Jeff is eager to share his knowledge of the growing industry with students.

Prior to joining PMI’s faculty, Jeff worked as a Maintenance Technician at Swagelok in their Erie plant. Tired of the long commute, Jeff became interested in teaching and saw an available position in the Mechatronics program at PMI.

“What attracted me to PMI was the vision of the school, more specifically the long-term goals,” said Jeff. “I like that they want to grow and become a leading training institution for manufacturing jobs. There’s a great need for trained professionals. When I left Swagelok, they were looking to hire nine maintenance technicians alone – the demand is huge.”

Jeff hopes that sharing his industry experience will help PMI grow the Mechatronics program.

Outside of work, Jeff participates in outdoor activities like hunting and fishing. Just recently, he welcomed his first grandchild and enjoys spending time with her.

Welcome to the PMI family!

What’s one thing you couldn’t go a day without? Shoes. I don’t do the barefoot deal.

What’s one thing most people don’t know about you? My first name - People around the area know me as “Woody”.

If you had a superpower, what would it be and why? The ability to heal cancer.

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PMI WELCOMES JIM GROSSETT BACK TO THE CNC PROGRAM

PMI welcomes back a familiar face to the school, CNC Instructor Jim Grossett. After taking some time off from the school, Jim’s return brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to the growing CNC program.

Jim’s 19-year career in higher education began in 1993 at Kerr Technology Center where he spent 10 years as an instructor. In 2003, Kerr Technology merged with PMI, but after a year Kerr Technology closed its doors and PMI assumed full management. During this transitional period, Jim was still teaching and remained at PMI until 2012, when he left the school and began working at Gander Mountain in Erie, PA. After speaking with fellow instructors Larry Knapp and Denny Coxson and hearing about the exciting changes occurring at PMI, Jim made the decision to return to PMI where he has been since early spring.

“I’ve always enjoyed teaching; it’s rewarding to work with the students and see them transition into the workforce,” said Jim.

When not in the classroom, Jim enjoys being outdoors and spends time fishing, hunting, and participating in competitive shooting sports. Jim also is an avid motorcycle rider. When asked what his favorite type of bike is he responded, “There’s no other bike than a Harley!”

Formerly from Murrysville, PA, Jim and his wife, Janice, currently reside in Guys Mills, PA. Welcome back, Jim!

What’s one thing you couldn’t go a day without? I can’t go without my morning cup of coffee.

What’s one thing most people don’t know about you? While I live an active life, most people don’t know I like to read books. It’s relaxing. The last book I read was on Gettysburg and I’m now reading Letters from Mom.

What’s your proudest professional moment? Receiving high evaluations from management and students.

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JOHN CAMPBELL JOINS FACULTY

In response to the fast-growing Electric Arc Welding program, PMI welcomed John Campbell in the spring as a new instructor. John joined veteran instructor John Adams to further advance the Electric Arc Welding program at PMI.

Teaching is nothing new to John; prior to joining PMI, he taught welding courses at Allstate Career School in West Mifflin, PA for eight-and-a-half years. After hearing about the opportunities available at PMI, he was keen on becoming part of the team.

John’s favorite thing about PMI is the students. “My proudest professional moment was becoming a teacher. It’s a rewarding field and I love having the ability to give back to the industry. I enjoy working with every student.”

A resident of Ellwood City, PA, John enjoys spending time with family and gardening a variety of vegetables.

What’s one thing you couldn’t go a day without? Drinking pop – I drink at least one Dr. Pepper a day.

If you had a superpower, what would it be and why? I would like to be able to read minds because then I would know what everyone is thinking.

Football or Hockey? Hockey – I’m a big Penguins fan.
In an effort to raise awareness for the manufacturing and technology industries, PMI participated in this summer’s STEM Camp, which took place June 18 and 19, 2014 at four higher education institutions throughout Crawford County. PMI was one of the four participating schools, joining Laurel Technical Institute, Edinboro University and Allegheny College.

STEM Camp, a program through the Crawford County K-12 Career Education Alliance, is designed to educate students going into 7th and 8th grades about career opportunities available in STEM-related programs. The camp was organized by Eileen Mullen, Program Coordinator for Crawford County K-12 Career Ed. Alliance, along with Libby Smith, a teacher for Penncrest School District, Debbie Anderson of LTI, and Jill Koehler of Crawford Central School District VISTA.

Admissions Representative Doug Nelson along with CNC Instructor Denny Coxson led a group of 20 middle school students from the Crawford Central and Penncrest School Districts through fun and interactive activities at PMI’s campus.

Throughout the hour-and-a-half session held at PMI, the staff led students through interactive lessons on robotics. At the beginning of the session, Doug welcomed the group, told them about the school, and discussed robotics and the importance they have in today’s workforce. Students were then split up into four groups and taken to two separate stations. At the first station, Denny showed the students the robotic arms used at the school, gave them a brief lesson on robotic operations and standards, and taught them how to manually program the robots to do basic tasks.

At the second station, Doug had the students participate in an interactive contest. Each group was given a box of everyday items, such as paperclips, rubber bands, blocks of wood, pens, string, nuts and bolts, screws, and tape. Upon receiving their boxes, Doug instructed the students to work together to design a “machine” that was capable of doing some sort of job. Each group had approximately 45 minutes to come up with a design, assemble their machine and test it.

Students worked together and came up with designs, such as catapults, sling shots, bow & arrows and even a device that kicked field goals.

“STEM camp was a great opportunity for the middle school students to engage in robotic technology through hands-on learning,” said Doug. “The students had such a great time building their machines. It was amazing to see what they had assembled in such a short period of time.”