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On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

## **DWD Secretary Announces \$332,452 in Manufacturing Worker Training Grants**

### ***Governor Doyle made funds available for training in Manufacturing Skill Standards Certification***

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that \$332,452 has been awarded to train workers across Wisconsin for the manufacturing industry's top national credential, the Manufacturing Skill Standards Certification (MSSC).

"Wisconsin became the first state to formally embrace this nationally recognized credentialing program in 2006, and manufacturing companies across the state have reaped the economic benefits ever since," Secretary Gassman said. "Thanks to Governor Doyle's leadership, hundreds of manufacturing workers have earned over 2,600 credentials focused on key areas that today's production workers need to help companies be competitive."

Governor Doyle's Council on Workforce Investment pledged \$100,000 to help fund training in advanced manufacturing to achieve MSSC credentials. Since then, the Governor has made additional investments in the program totaling \$585,000. Since September 2010, a total of \$332,452 has been awarded to six regional workforce development boards across the state to support MSSC worker training.

MSSC is an industry-led, standards-based training, assessment and certification system focused on the core skills and knowledge needed by today's production workers. Manufacturing workers can earn credentials in key industry areas such as safety, quality practices and measurement, manufacturing processes and production, and maintenance awareness.

Wisconsin companies such as Master Lock, Federal Tool and Engineering, Milwaukee Gear, Pioneer Products, Ocean Spray and SSI Technologies have benefited from MSSC training. Employer and employee testimonials can be viewed at: <http://mssc.wi.gov/testimonials.htm>.

For more information about MSSC in Wisconsin, visit: <http://mssc.wi.gov/> or <http://www.msscusa.org/>