



News Release

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El Camino College Center for Applied Competitive Technologies develops three Aerospace Fastener Manufacturing Courses

HAWTHORNE, Calif. – El Camino College's Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) has developed three full-semester college courses in aerospace fastener manufacturing technology. The first fully accredited college program in the nation. "The Aerospace Fastener program continues to be a valuable resource for employers," said David Gonzales, Director of CACT. "Aerospace Fastener manufacturing is a critical skill-set for industry, yet no community college in the nation provides specific training in the technology. The El Camino College Compton Center will offer three courses."

The uniqueness of the courses also requires highly specialized equipment, which industry donated to El Camino College Compton Center. The development of additional courses, without the donations from business, would have created a "major impediment" for expanding the Aerospace Fastener program, Mr. Gonzales said.

The Industrial Fasteners Institute (IFI) and El Camino's CACT have teamed together to create this Fastener Industry program. Patrick Meade, manager of the (IFI)'s aerospace division, said "This is the start of a much-needed development of manufacturing talent, a critical sector to the economy of the South Bay and California as a whole."

The Aerospace Fastener program has been designed to provide industry with entry-level people who gain hands-on training in basic machining, familiarity with blueprints, and have been exposed to fastener manufacturing theory. Despite the economic downturn, workforce industry demands have continued. An estimated hundreds of trained workers are needed over the next five years for the aerospace fastener industry.

For more information, on the Aerospace Fastener Program or the CACT, contact David Gonzales at 310-973-3170 or dgonzales@elcamino.edu.