

## PRESS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

### **New Jersey's March to Success: Best Practices for Hiring Veterans**

*Employment forum supports veterans into manufacturing careers*

**NEWARK, N.J., June 16, 2016:** Today, The Manufacturing Institute, in partnership with Manufacture NJ, the New Jersey Business & Industry Association, the New Jersey Institute of Technology and Alcoa Foundation, hosted an employer forum and reception on sourcing, hiring and retaining veterans.

Kendall Ademu-John, HR Specialist – Diversity Outreach at PSEG, and JoAnn Mitchell, Senior Project Leader at Sandvik Coromant, addressed the urgent need for skilled workers and innovative strategies for reaching veterans and transitioning them into manufacturing careers. Manufacturers discussed how to find veterans, match their skills to manufacturing occupations, and integrate them for the long term into their company.

Lieutenant General Ralph J. Jodice II, USAF, Retired, former Commander of NATO's Allied Air Command, provided a keynote address. He noted that in his official travels across the world, the U.S. armed services are recognized for their outstanding training, including technical training that makes veterans a strong fit for manufacturing careers.

Brent Weil, Senior Vice President at The Manufacturing Institute of the National Association of Manufacturers, spoke to how manufacturers can connect with transitioning veterans and veterans-serving organizations and training. "In the next decade, two million manufacturing are projected to be unfilled," Weil said. "New Jersey manufacturers have an economic imperative to close that skills gap, starting with veterans."

The Employer Forum and Reception took place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

###

#### ***About The Manufacturing Institute***

*The Manufacturing Institute (the Institute) is the 501(c)(3) affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers. As a non-partisan organization, the Institute is committed to delivering leading-edge information and services to the nation's manufacturers. The Institute is the authority on the attraction, qualification and development of world-class manufacturing talent. For more information, please visit*

*[www.themanufacturinginstitute.org](http://www.themanufacturinginstitute.org).*