

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Manufacturing Institute, Cooper Standard Foundation Partner to Support Veterans for Manufacturing Careers

Proceeds from NASCAR Careers for Veterans 200 Race Aid Veteran Training

NOVI, Mich., Aug. 4, 2015: Today, The Manufacturing Institute and the Cooper Standard Foundation announced a partnership in support of veterans to obtain manufacturing jobs in Michigan. The Cooper Standard Foundation supports veteran training programs that will assist veterans to prepare for civilian manufacturing at community colleges across Michigan. Macomb Community College is the first college partner, with additional colleges across Michigan to be included over time.

Funds raised through the Careers for Veterans 200 Race, which will be at Michigan International Speedway on Aug. 15, 2015, will aid veterans in manufacturing training programs.

Veterans attending Macomb Community College have access to fast-track training in a range of manufacturing programs, including welding, manufacturing technology, machining, robotics, and mechatronics, that are linked to more than 600 employers in southeast Michigan. Funding from the Cooper Standard Foundation will provide assistance for veterans in these manufacturing-related programs with transition services, retention support and employment search.

The funding will also support wrap-around services for veterans to help remove barriers to their participation and completion of training programs, such as food assistance, child care or transportation. In collaboration with a college adviser at Macomb, veterans and service members will also have the opportunity to design a personal education plan that addresses their needs, builds on their strengths and interests, and outlines a sequence of courses and support services in their chosen manufacturing program of study to achieve their academic and career goals.

“Cooper Standard and the Cooper Standard Foundation are proud to support our veterans with both career opportunities within our company and we are equally proud to support training programs to help ensure success for our veterans as they enter the civilian workforce,” said Keith Stephenson, EVP and chief operating officer, Cooper Standard. “Given their sacrifice and service to our country, we feel strongly about lending an extra hand to these brave men and women.”

“This is not your grandfather’s manufacturing,” Institute President Jennifer McNelly said. “Manufacturing is increasingly high-tech and requires advanced skills. Companies like Cooper Standard value the experience and training of our nation’s veterans, and this program will help more vets qualify for dynamic careers in modern manufacturing.”

“Macomb Community College applauds the commitment of Cooper Standard and the Manufacturing Institute to assisting veterans in pursuing manufacturing careers,” said James Jacobs, president, Macomb Community College. “This new partnership provides important funding to help veterans complete programs and take advantage of the great opportunities in advanced manufacturing for those who have the right education and training.”

The Careers for Veterans 200 Race presented by the Cooper Standard Foundation and Brad Keselowski's Checkered Flag Foundation honors veterans by showcasing the importance of hiring military veterans entering the civilian workforce. The NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race at Michigan International Speedway was named Careers for Veterans 200 to spread the message of hiring veterans into the workforce. As the title sponsor, the race at Michigan International Speedway allows Cooper Standard the opportunity to promote its Careers for Veterans Program on a state and nationwide basis and brings attention to hiring and training veterans. This is the second year in a row that the Cooper Standard Foundation and Brad Keselowski's Checkered Flag Foundation have sponsored the race.

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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.

About Cooper Standard

Cooper Standard, headquartered in Novi, Mich., is a leading global supplier of systems and components for the automotive industry. Products include sealing, fuel and brake delivery, fluid transfer and anti-vibration systems. Cooper Standard employs more than 27,000 people globally and operates in 20 countries around the world. The Cooper Standard Foundation was established in June 2013 to strengthen the communities in which Cooper Standard employees work and live through the support of children's charities, education, health and wellness and community revitalization. For more information, please visit www.cooperstandard.com.

About the Checkered Flag Foundation

Brad Keselowski's Checkered Flag Foundation was incorporated in late July of 2010 and received its 501 (c)(3) status a few short months later. The foundation strives to support those individuals who have sacrificed greatly including military members, veterans, first responders, and their families, among others. Since its inception, the Checkered Flag Foundation has hosted or participated in events with

the Wounded Warrior Project, Armed Forces Foundation, The Paralyzed Veterans of America, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and Detroit F.I.R.E. benefit team.

About Macomb Community College

Macomb Community College (www.macomb.edu) is one of the nation's leading community colleges, providing learning experiences to nearly 48,000 students annually. Macomb nationally ranks in the top two percent in the number of associate degrees awarded by community colleges. The college's comprehensive educational programming includes pre-collegiate experiences, university transfer and career preparation programs, bachelor degree completion and graduate degree programs, workforce training, professional education and certification, and continuing education and enrichment opportunities.