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Manufacturers: Job Training Vital to Nation’s Competitiveness

Skilled Workforce is Essential to Manufacturing and Economic Growth

Washington, D.C., June 8, 2011 - National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) President and CEO Jay Timmons issued the following statement on President Obama’s endorsement of the Manufacturing Institute’s NAM-Endorsed Skills Certification System today at Northern Virginia Community College:

“In recent months as I have visited shopfloors across the country, I’ve heard over and over from manufacturers about what they need to grow, compete and create jobs. They’ve shared their concerns on taxes, energy costs and regulation as well as their need for a skilled workforce which will strengthen our overall economy. That is why our strong partnership with the Manufacturing Institute has been so critical to provide students and transitioning workers with the skills they need to succeed in the modern manufacturing workforce.

Today is a great day in our effort to close the skills gap and grow manufacturing, and we are pleased that President Obama made this a priority. Together, we can work toward economic recovery by empowering workers and employers by supporting much-needed certification and training.

Manufacturers have long supported the Institute’s Skills Certification System because it offers results which lead to more productivity and innovation. This systematic approach is a terrific example of what we can accomplish when job creators and educators come together. These certified training programs build the skills valued by potential employers, and those who complete the certification have access to higher paying jobs.”

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The National Association of Manufacturers is the largest manufacturing association in the United States, representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states. Manufacturing has a presence in every single congressional district providing good, high-paying jobs. For more information about the Manufacturers or to follow us on Shopfloor, Twitter and Facebook, please visit www.nam.org.