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is UP
The Job Force Board

35 YEARS

LEADING BUSINESS
TO EXCELLENCE

Misbdc
MICHIGAN
SMALL BUSINESS
& TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Please take a moment to view our weekly update to keep current on the exciting happenings around the Upper Peninsula.

Area Students Explore Construction Career Pathways

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The third annual U.P. Construction Skills Challenge was held on April 24th at the Jacobetti Center on the Campus of Northern Michigan University. Nine teams from across the Upper Peninsula competed for various awards by constructing an expandable wood structure and performing an electrical wiring exercise. Judges represented various construction trades, NMU Construction Management students and a local safety professional.

The goal of the event was to expose high school students interested in the construction industry to real-world planning, building, teamwork and safety experience.

The winners of this year's event were 1st place: Delta-Schoolcraft ISD Career and Technical Center, 2nd Place: Dickinson-Iron ISD, and 3rd Place: West-Iron County High School. The first place team was presented the competition's ornate traveling trophy that will be

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displayed at their school for the year.



"This day long event allows students from U.P. schools to be judged in several categories including workmanship, safety, time and teamwork while closely replicating a day on a construction site," commented Tony Retaskie, Job Force Board Member, Executive Director of the U.P. Construction Council and Co-chair of the U.P. Construction Skills Challenge.

Regional Manufactureres Benefit from Recent Visit by General Lott



Members of the Upper Peninsula Regional Industrial Manufacturing Skills Alliance (UP-RIMSA) recently had an opportunity to meet with retired General Bradley M Lott of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Michigan Defense Contract Coordination Center (DC3). The goal of

the meeting was to help manufacturing companies connect more strongly to opportunities to provide goods and services to the state and federal governments.

Lott encourages the companies to register at no cost on the supply chain, a directory of manufacturers for the Defence Supply Centers and Maintenance Centers. Lott, retired from the Marine corps in 2006 after 34 years of service including his assignment as Commander of the Marine Corps Logistics Commands, is responsible for world-wide supply chain management.

For more information on the Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), DC# or Manufacturing Diversification, contact Michigan Works! at 800.562.4808.

Upcoming Events

June 4, 2009
UPEDA Meeting
Pine Grove Country Club
Iron Mountain, MI
For More Information
Contact
800.562.4808 Ext.251

June 17, 2009
Starting A Business Workshop
Michigan Works! Service Center
Escanaba, MI
For More Information Contact
906.789.9732

June 17, 2009
Michigan Works! Sponsored Business After Hours
Teddy's Pub & Bistro
Manistique, MI
For More Information
Contact
800.562.4808

June 19, 2009
Starting a Business Workshop
Michigan Works! Service Center
Marquette, MI
For More Information Contact
906.228.3075

Diversifying Michigan Manufacturers

July 15, 2009
For more information or to register
[CLICK HERE](#)



2009 Upper Great Lakes Economic & Workforce Development Summit

Save the Date! September 16, 2009

Economic and Workforce Development Summit

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM EST

NMU Great Lakes Rooms, Marquette, MI

Agenda and Program to Follow –

More Information Soon at www.jobforce.org

Here is what last year's participants had to say:

“**E**very year
I leave the Summit
renewed & re-charged! ”

“**G**reat event!
Informative, relevant
and inspiring! ”

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Lodging:

A block of rooms are reserved at the
Country Inn & Suites (906-225-1300),
Ramada Inn (906-228-6000) and
the Landmark Inn (906-228-2580).

Our vision is to create and maintain a healthy and growing economy with a local workforce that has the knowledge, skills and abilities to enable local employers to compete and succeed in a global and technologically sophisticated market place.

Thank you for your continued support of economic and workforce development efforts throughout our region.

Sincerely,

Orrin Bailey
Michigan Works! The Job Force Board

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