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**The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC)
Selected as National Partner to Grow Apprenticeships in Manufacturing**

Initiative will enable more companies to provide students and workers with skills for success

CLEVELAND, OH, November 14, 2016 —NCATC is proud to be partnering with the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS), which was been selected by the United States Department of Labor as an industry intermediary to support the expansion of registered apprenticeships within manufacturing. NCATC will work with NIMS to increase access to apprenticeships and assist employers in developing new programs that reach diverse talent pools. As part of this initiative, \$500,000 is available to support companies in establishing a registered apprenticeship program with the Department of Labor.

“For over two decades, NIMS has worked with companies, workforce development groups and community colleges to stand-up high-caliber apprenticeship programs across the country,” said Jim Wall, Executive Director, NIMS. “This contract gives us the unique opportunity to create more impact in our industry by expanding apprenticeships to underrepresented populations and to new companies looking to establish a sustainable talent pipeline.”

NCATC will assist NIMS in identifying best practices and promising practices in ApprenticeshipUSA LEADER program used by:

- a. Community & Technical Colleges
- b. Institutions of Higher Education
- c. Advanced Technology Centers (ATC)
- d. NSF / ATE centers, and
- e. Joint employer/education councils

NIMS will focus on providing companies with tools and resources to develop customized registered apprenticeship programs. These programs combine on-the-job training with job-related classroom instruction and meet national standards for registration with the Department of Labor or State Apprenticeship Agencies.

“NCATC is proud to formally partner with NIMS in the growing US Apprenticeship movement to expand the best community & technical colleges workforce development programs with NIMS credentialed apprenticeships.”

Other stakeholders supporting expansion of registered apprenticeships in manufacturing include:

- AMT - The Association for Manufacturing Technology
- National Tooling and Machining Association (NTMA)
- Precision Machined Products Association (PMPA)
- Precision Metalforming Association (PMA)
- Technology and Manufacturing Association (TMA)
- The Aluminum Association (AA)
- Digital Manufacturing & Design Innovation Institute (DMDII)
- Lightweight Innovations For Tomorrow (LIFT), operated by ManufacturingUSA
- Manufacturing Institute (MI), the workforce development arm of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)
- National Governors Association (NGA)
- National Network of Business and Industry Associations (National Network)

NIMS is seeking companies and industry partners that are interested in enhancing their talent pipelines through apprenticeships.

Companies that are interested in building an apprenticeship program or organizations that are interested in partnering with NIMS should go to www.mfgapprenticeship.com or email the NIMS ApprenticeshipUSA team at apprenticeship@nims-skills.org.

About NCATC

The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers is a network of higher education resources that advocates and promotes the use of technology applications that enhance economic and workforce development programs and services. Our 175 members span the US in 41 states from Hawaii to Maine to Florida. Coupled with 32 Corporate Strategic Partners, NCATC provides the network to keep advanced technology / manufacturing workforce development programs at the highest levels possible.

About NIMS

NIMS is the developer of quality competency-based skills standards and credentials for jobs in manufacturing and related industries. In September 2016, NIMS was selected by the Department of Labor as an industry intermediary to support the expansion of registered apprenticeship within manufacturing. Through these efforts, NIMS certifies a safe and skilled workforce for the global economy.