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LWD

**- News Release -**

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Christie Administration Applauds Graduates of Advanced Manufacturing Program  
Trainees Equipped to Work in a Key New Jersey Industry Sector**

**BLACKWOOD, N.J., MAY 01, 2015** – The Christie Administration celebrated the graduation of its most recent class of advanced manufacturing trainees at Camden County College today. The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) launched the fabricated metal product/CNC manufacturing program several years ago in partnership with the New Jersey Community College Consortium and the New Jersey Business and Industry Association Manufacturers Network.

The training initiative, led by the LWD Advanced Manufacturing Talent Network, equips individuals for careers in the fabricated metal industry, which involves cutting, bending and transforming metal into finished products or parts for assembly.

“This program is successful because we are investing training dollars in industry sectors that are growing here in the Garden State and we are guided by the needs of New Jersey employers,” said Commissioner Harold J. Wirths of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. “These graduates are now equipped with skills for jobs that are in demand. I congratulate today’s graduates.”

The 18 graduates underwent a demanding program involving approximately 300 hours of classroom and hands-on training. All of the graduates have a nationally recognized credential after passing the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) Certification Exam for Measurement, Materials, and Safety Level I.

“The manufacturing industry is making a small comeback in New Jersey evidenced by a net growth of 2,800 jobs in March, 2015,” said Sivaraman Anbarasan, Executive Director of the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce & Economic Development. “Our advanced

manufacturing training program continues to play a key role in producing a well-trained workforce and filling the talent pipeline for the manufacturers all around the state. Thanks to Camden County College, the new mobile training lab has been used for training at Raritan Valley Community College, Brookdale and will be at Union County College next week.”

Today’s ceremony marks the 13th class of graduates from the program. They join a selected group of more than 200 trainees with a 90 percent job placement rate in the advanced manufacturing industry. Three of the graduates from this class have accepted jobs and three others have job offers.

For more information about the Fabricated Metal Product / CNC Machining Manufacturing Training Program and admission requirements please go to [www.njworkforce.org](http://www.njworkforce.org).



Chief of Staff Gary Hasenbalg (center) of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development talks with an employer involved in the advanced manufacturing training program, Daniel Farber (right), President of Brite Lights USA, Inc. and Sivaraman Anbarasan, Executive Director of the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce & Economic Development.