



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 17, 2004  
**TO:** **EFMAC Members**  
**FROM:** Linda Cooke, Chair, Workforce/Education Working Group & Workforce Florida, Inc. Board member  
**SUBJECT:** **Recap – Training Survey Results**

In February, the Workforce/Education Working Group issued an electronic survey to all EFMAC members and Florida manufacturing association members to obtain more information about the workforce recruitment and training needs of Florida's manufacturers. Of this group, a large number responded—77 percent. A copy of both the original survey and the results are attached. Some key highlights include:

- 65% of respondents have been in business for 25 years or less
- Most respondents represented larger companies, employing greater than 51 workers (55%)
- 90% of responding manufacturers have had employees recently participate in training (within the last three years); most of this training has been customized (47%) and provided by non-public education providers (e.g., vendors, independent contractors, internal company trainers)—53%
- Over half of respondents have not utilized any state grant money for workforce training (57%)
- Training resulting in industry-recognized certifications is important (81%)
- The majority of respondents offer in-house training (90%). Nearly 75% of this in-house training is in the areas of computer/technical, safety-related and job specific/specialized training
- Only 14% of respondents use the public employment/One-Stop system to find their workers
- Short-term training needed by manufacturers include basic skills, computer/technical skills and company-specific training
- Longer-term training needs include computer/technical and company-specific training

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, survey results were shared with Workforce Florida's High Skills/High Wages Council. Based on the highlights listed above, the Council noted that there is a wide open opportunity for the public employment system to assist our Florida manufacturers, both in the provision of training grants and to assist in helping them find workers. As a result, the Council voted unanimously to devote training funds to assist Florida manufacturers with the common, short-term training needs identified in the survey. It is anticipated that the WFI

Board of Directors will approve the Council's action at their next meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Orlando. A full update will be provided at the next EFMAC meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Orlando. All Florida businesses—especially manufacturers—are encouraged to access help with their workforce needs through [www.employflorida.net](http://www.employflorida.net) which identifies regional workforce boards in their areas.

We appreciate the opportunity to share this information. If you have additional questions, please contact my working group facilitator, Andra Cornelius, at 850.921.1119 or [acornelius@workforceflorida.com](mailto:acornelius@workforceflorida.com). I look forward to seeing all of you on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Orlando.

Attachment

cc: Raymond Gilley, Chair, Workforce Florida, Inc.  
Curtis Austin, President, Workforce Florida, Inc.  
Susan Pareigis, Director, Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation  
Steve Mayberry, Vice President, Enterprise Florida, Inc.