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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**San Marcos Manufacturers Receive \$386,000 Training Grant
Five Local Manufacturers Partner with Austin Community College
and Receive a Skills Development Fund Grant**

San Marcos, Texas – Five San Marcos manufacturers partnered with Austin Community College to apply for the Texas Workforce Commission Skills Development Fund. C-FAN, Ember Industries, Genlyte Group San Marcos Operations (Gardco & Wide-Lite Divisions), HADCO, and Mensor Corporation partnered with five other manufacturing companies from Cedar Park, Georgetown, and Round Rock to create an advanced manufacturing consortium which received a \$386,218 grant. This grant will allow for the customized training of 343 employees, both new hires and current staff, during the one year grant period.

“Training is always an important part of our Lean Manufacturing process and while costs continue to soar, training is a necessity to stay competitive in our industry,” said Susan Fisher, Human Resources Coordinator for Mensor Corporation. “Receiving training that we request and/or design, *at no cost*, is something our staff easily supports.”

The Skills Development Fund program helps companies by funding customized job training projects. This program successfully partners local customized training opportunities and a company’s needs for a win-win situation that increases the skills levels and wages of the company’s workforce and creates a positive economic impact on the local region. New companies look at the availability of these training funds when considering relocation or expansion into a new community. This program is also an important retention tool for companies currently located in the city.

“I was glad to see so many San Marcos manufacturers benefit from these free training dollars,” stated Kim L. Moore, Economic Development Director for Economic Development San Marcos. “This grant played a major role in the retention of HADCO and I would like to see more San Marcos companies join the consortium for future grant applications and take advantage of these free customized training opportunities.”



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If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Kim L. Moore, please call 512.393.3400 or e-mail kmoore@ecodevsanmarcos.org.