



For Immediate Release
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EDC-VC'S NEW MANUFACTURING PROGRAM PROVIDES NEEDED SUPPORT
Manufacturers from a variety of sectors accessing program

CAMARILLO, Calif. –A total of 14 percent of Ventura County’s jobs are in manufacturing, which is higher than the state and national averages of 10.9 percent. These employees tend to have much higher average pay than other employment categories. As technology improves production rates it decreases the number of manufacturing jobs, making it vital for local businesses to maintain a well-trained workforce that can adapt.

In response, the Economic Development Collaborative-Ventura County launched the Manufacturing Outreach Program in January to provide local manufacturers with low- or no-cost assistance in the areas of personalized business consultation, customized training, international trade, operating efficiencies, and job creation and retention.

Twenty-five manufacturers attended an east county business forum at Simi Valley City Hall in January. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to connect to resources that will help them become more profitable. These businesses are seeking assistance in a wide range of areas, including strategic planning, marketing, transitioning to more efficient operations, workforce training, project management, access to capital and cash flow.

“Our goal for the program is to help businesses thrive here and create or maintain jobs,” said Bruce Stenslie, president/CEO of EDC-VC. “With such a strong, immediate interest from area businesses, we know we’re providing a vital service to the community.”

(more)

Manufacturing Outreach Program/EDC-VC
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The program is open to all manufacturers in Ventura County and is funded by the Workforce Investment Board of Ventura County. It's a partnership between EDC-VC, WIB, Job and Career Centers, the county of Ventura and its cities, California Manufacturing Technology Consulting, the Gas Company, Southern California Edison and the Ventura County Community College District.

For more information, contact Mary Anne Rooney, EDC-VC program director, at 805-384-1800 ext. 25 or gettradeinfo@edc-vc.com.

EDC-VC is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as a business-to-government liaison to assist businesses in Ventura County by offering programs that enhance the economic vitality of the region. For more information about EDC-VC's other services available to small businesses, contact Bruce Stenslie, president/CEO at 805-384-1800, ext. 21 or bruce.stenslie@edc-vc.com. Or visit www.edc-vc.com.

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