

## California Steel Industries, Inc. Testimonial

February 7, 2006

This letter has been written to show our support for the Industrial Electrical and Industrial Mechanical Training Programs developed by the Manufacturer's Council, and that are being planned to start soon at Chaffey College and San Bernardino Valley College respectively and on the Fontana High School campus, with the initial programs running for an approximate 15 month period.

As a six company consortium, the companies of California Steel Industries, Tamco Steel, Steelscape, Schlosser Forge, Stockmar Industrial, and S&D Specialty were instrumental in developing the curriculum for each program. We were greatly supported by the staffs of Chaffey College and the San Bernardino Community College District. The Electrical training will be conducted by Chaffey College and the Mechanical will be offered through San Bernardino Valley College and Fontana High School.

Our training needs in heavy industry in the Electrical and Mechanical disciplines are different than the needs of other organizations. As an example, most Electricians in this geographical area do not have the required skills in electricity and electronics that we need. So we have to recruit from other areas or train our own. We have determined that the electrical and mechanical training needs for our companies aren't easily meshed with the course offerings and delivery methods at the local colleges. Therefore, our use of the "established" training courses at the colleges in the electrical and mechanical disciplines has been minimal. Yet we realize that the community colleges have good training resources. Therefore, our consortium has worked with the colleges to develop a focused curriculum for each craft, and special schedules that meet the needs of these manufacturing companies. Much of the design of these programs copies some of the excellent craft training programs of other states, and specific craft training equipment was purchased and located at the colleges for the purpose of enhancing their craft training capabilities.

We know that the programs will be successful because the same companies that helped develop each curriculum and schedule are the ones that will help populate the classrooms. In fact, these companies have committed to fill well over half of the 24 slots anticipated for each program. And as "proof" of the success of these programs, a similar effort in 2001/2002 was successful, supported by these companies, Chaffey College, San Bernardino Valley College, Fontana High School and the county of San Bernardino Jobs and Employment Services Department. These classes were well received by the students and companies involved, and now these programs will be set in motion again.

We are calling these programs "community based" customized craft training programs because it is our vision that the training received from these programs will strengthen the employees of the companies listed (and the other companies who send employees), thus

making these companies stronger. Strong, profitable companies provide good paying jobs and therefore keep the community alive.

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