

OregonCityNews

Latest tools boost CCC students' curriculum

Ohio company's connection updates school's programs

The Clackamas Review, Feb 1, 2012

As computer numeric control machine tools have made advances in technology and automation, students trained on the machinery at community colleges are trying to keep pace.

That's changing for manufacturing students at Clackamas Community College. Through a new partnership with Gosiger Inc., CCC students will train on the company's CNC machinery. At the same time, Gosiger will use a remodeled CCC classroom to demonstrate machine tools to clients.

Gosiger, an 80-year-old Dayton, Ohio, company with showrooms across the country, hasn't had a presence in Oregon. The company connected with CCC through manufacturing instructor Chris Rizzo and because of the manufacturing base in Clackamas County.

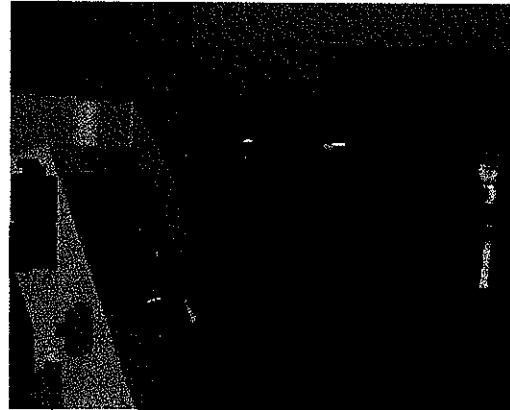
Through the agreement, Gosiger will rotate high-performance machine tools out of a specially equipped CCC manufacturing classroom. Advanced manufacturing students will train on the equipment used to make parts for industries such as aerospace and medical supplies.

"We make a practice of working with education-based partners," said Brad Gecowets, manager of Gosiger's West Coast operations. "It's beneficial both ways – the people being trained become familiar with state-of-the-art technology."

The college training courses now use machines from the 1990s or earlier. Instructors will develop new curriculum to incorporate the advanced skills students will use on the Gosiger equipment.

"There's a huge leap from seeing it on the computer screen to being able to actually cut metal," said Rizzo. "We train our manufacturing students to work in this environment, but we've had a barrier getting to the final level."

Two other industry partners will support Gosiger and the college. Sandvik, an international company, will provide cutting tools for the machines and will use the classroom to demonstrate their equipment to clients. Blaser will provide the coolant used in machining.



SUBMITTED PHOTO / THE CLACKAMAS REVIEW
Ron Hammon, Gosiger sales engineer, and Scott Giltz, dean of technology health occupations and workforce at Clackamas Community College, check out a new high-performance machine tool.