

Rapid Prototype Aids Police



Police officers, Allen Perez and Jeff Solomon, have invented Tact-Pad, a multi-functional pocket-sized product that incorporates six functions that officers need on the job. It includes a pupilometer for drug and alcohol recognition, tactical mirror, license clip, accident reconstruction outlines and card holder on a metal backing that offers additional protection for officers. Perez worked with the Sierra College Manufacturers Assistance Program (MAP) and Sierra College faculty member, Steve Jung, to refine the design and produce rapid prototypes to show to prospective customers.

Perez had studied at Sierra College and thought of the college as a resource when he became an inventor. "MAP turned my drawing into a functional design and produced the prototype," said Perez. "The prototype made it possible to effectively demonstrate how Tact-Pad works. The rapid prototype is a product that clients can see, touch, feel and manipulate. Through the assistance of the MAP and Steve Jung, we were able to launch Tact-Pad and generate immediate enthusiasm from potential customers in public safety. We strongly encourage any inventors who have a great idea but no place to begin, to contact representatives of Sierra College MAP."

For information, contact Carol Pepper-Kittredge at **(916)781-6288** or go to **www.sierracollege.training.com/rapid_prototyping.php**.

Supply Chain Management Cuts Costs

Beginning September 9 at the Sierra Gateway Campus in Roseville, Sierra College CACT and APICS Sacramento are offering a series of Supply Chain Management courses to help businesses gain a competitive advantage. Learn how to increase control over the storage and movement of materials, supplies and products, and your company can enhance efficiencies, cut costs and improve customer satisfaction. This is one of a series of five courses being offered.

According to Pat McCarty, President of APICS Sacramento, any company that purchases, produces and manages inventory could benefit from learning the best practices in Supply Chain Management. "Grocery stores, utilities, hospitals and service businesses as well as manufacturers can reduce costs, improve efficiencies and stream line processes with Supply Chain Management strategies," said McCarty. "The greatest benefit for participants is the opportunity to meet and interact with others in the industry who implement similar programs."

For more information, go to **www.sierracollege.training.com** or contact Carol Pepper-Kittredge, at **cpepper-kittredge@sierracollege.edu** or **(916) 781-6288**.

Grant focuses on Technical Education

The Sierra College Workforce Development & Continuing Education Division has been awarded \$600,000 in grant funding from the California Community College Chancellor's office to expand career technical education (CTE). The project will promote science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education.

The goal is to inspire middle and high students, through hands-on projects and applied academics, to continue their technical education at Sierra College to prepare for careers in product design, technology, engineering and manufacturing.

To gather industry input Sierra College is forming a workforce development advisory committee. If you are interested in participating, contact Sandra Scott, **sscott@sierracollege.edu** or **(916) 781-6245**.



Training for Ski Industry

Sierra College CACT partnered with California Ski Industry Association (CSIA) (www.californiasnow.com) to conduct three levels of "RoMec" or Ropeway Mechatronics training for technicians who maintain complex ski lifts this summer at Sugar Bowl Ski Resort.

According to Sandra Scott, Director of Workforce Development and Continuing Education at Sierra College, the hands-on seminars were developed to provide technicians with in-depth skills training. "With Sugar Bowl Ski Resort hosting the training, participants can learn a technique and then see how it is applied on actual equipment in the field," said Scott. "Sierra College is committed to working with industry to develop applied academic curriculum to train those employed in technical fields and to attract young people to technical careers."

Customized Training Praised

Clients' post-training evaluations show that they benefited from the customized employee training offered by Sierra College Training & Development. The program selects instructors who have extensive industry experience, proven capabilities to engage adult learners and the flexibility to modify curriculum to meet the organization's needs. To see the wide range of topics offered, including process improvement, project management, supervision, business math, report writing and customer service, go to www.sierracollegegetraining.com.

Recent evaluations reported:

"Every part of the programs offered by Sierra College was handled in a professional manner. All of the employees had positive feedback on the training."

"Our staff has been exposed to many new analysis tools used by other companies to analyze work flow and processes, and the logical steps to monitor, evaluate and make continuous improvements."

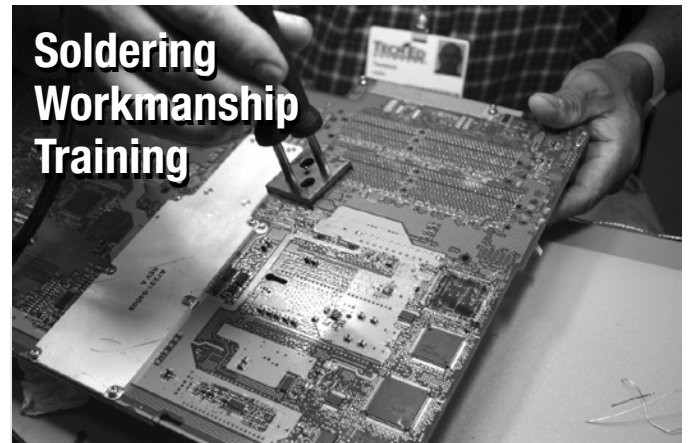
"The scheduling flexibility was probably the biggest advantage and #1 reason for utilizing the training through Sierra College."

"Sierra College instructors work flawlessly with our industry experts to create an amazing educational program."

Businesses support CAD/CAM program

To enrich the new iDesign CAD/CAM program at Lincoln High School (www.LHSiDesign.com) with current industry practices, instructor Scott Seacrist toured Titan Engineering and Schilling Robotics and job shadowed at Harris & Bruno, Morgan Ceramics, RobbJack and Selway Machine Tools this summer. Companies shared their expertise so Seacrist can infuse his curriculum with current examples of local businesses' processes.

With a grant from the California Community College Chancellor's Office, Sierra College CACT partnered with Lincoln High School to establish a computer and manufacturing lab called iDesign. In this applied academics class, students develop designs using CAD software and then produce projects using standard industry tools including manual mills and automated Computer Numeric Controlled (CNC) milling machines. Students learn critical thinking and problem solving by working on creative projects such as engraved name plates, jewelry, candle sticks and auto parts. You can contribute by commenting on Seacrist's blog at www.lhsidesign.com/blog.



Tech-Ed Networks, Inc. (www.tech-ed.biz) of Roseville provides Reutilization Program Management (RPM) for Hewlett-Packard and other companies, refurbishing technical equipment from desktop computers to UNIX servers. The company grew from 20 to over 100 employees in two years and wanted to qualify more employees in IPC 610 Workmanship Standards for soldering according to Mark Winter, RPM Engineering Manager.

"The course was very valuable in certifying employees to meet clients' ISO 9000 requirements as well as prepare our company to apply for ISO 9000," said Winter. Employees reported: "With the hands-on training, we were able to do a lot of technique," "I learned how to judge the quality of soldering joint and applications," and "Linda was an excellent instructor; the best I've ever had."