



901 South First St.
Abilene, TX 79602
Phone (325)670-9660
Fax (325)670-9603

Press Release

Contact: Marco Giron
Phone: (325) 734-3973

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lauren Launches Inaugural Apprenticeship Program

ABILENE, TX, OCTOBER 3, 2011: On September 23, 2011, Lauren Engineers & Constructors (Lauren) launched its first ever Apprenticeship & Training Program at its Manufacturing Facility in Abilene, TX. Five employees were selected after a formal application, interview and screening process to participate in the Pipefitting program.

This program is registered in the state of Texas and is recognized nationally by the U.S. Department of Labor. Apprentices will complete over 550 hours of standardized classroom instruction and 8,000 hours of on-the-job learning over the next four years. On-the-job learning is formally supervised by mentors assigned to each apprentice. Pipefitting instruction begins with Introductory Craft Skills training and is supplemented with approximately 50 hours of Field Safety training offered throughout the program. The curriculum was developed by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), a leading source for construction education in the U.S.

"Lauren is committed to providing excellent training and development opportunities for our employees," said Marco Giron, Lauren's Manager of Training. "This program allows Lauren to enhance the skills of our workers, providing for increased earnings potential for employees while helping to develop a more-qualified craft base for Lauren's projects."

Upon completion of the program, apprentices will earn a pipefitting journeyman certification that is registered and recognized nationally by the U.S. Department of Labor, receive certificates of training completion from NCCER that are portable to all NCCER Accredited Training Sponsors, and will be eligible to take challenge examinations which currently qualify them for over 38 college credit hours.

This program is the culmination of a nine-month-long effort by Lauren, with the goal of positioning the company to be more competitive on federal project bids that often favor contractors with registered apprenticeship programs, and to produce a better qualified workforce for future clients.

ABOUT LAUREN

Lauren is a leader in many diversified markets such as Alternative Energy, Polymers, Power, Pulp & Paper, Refining, Special Metals and Materials Handling. With operations in the US, Canada and India, Lauren provides Engineering, Procurement, Construction and integrated EPC services to industrial customers worldwide. Lauren is an EEO/AA employer. For more information about Lauren, please visit the Lauren website at www.laurenec.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Apprentices (as shown in the picture left to right)

Harry Bonds
Garret Horn

Timothy Crabtree
Omar Flores

Caleb Brown

###