



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Halifax Community College provides WestRock apprenticeship training

WELDON, N.C. – Halifax Community College, in tandem with state agency partners, is leading specialized training efforts to benefit local manufacturing workers.

HCC's Regional Advanced Manufacturing Pipeline for Eastern North Carolina (RAMP East) curriculum, a registered program through ApprenticeshipNC, provided nine WestRock employees 96 hours of pre-apprenticeship instruction that will transition directly into its mechanical maintenance technician apprenticeship program.

RAMP East pre-apprentices receive certifications in career readiness, working smart, OSHA-10 and Lean Six-Sigma – Yellow Belt as well as introduction to manufacturing, problem solving and math for measurements courses.

“Through collaboration, HCC and ApprenticeshipNC are offering a viable option to secure workers to fill existing vacancies,” said Rhonda High, HCC's customized training director. “Funding is available through this program that helps cover tuition, industry reimbursement and advertising to build a skilled workforce in the Roanoke Valley and across the state.”

Classes are held at the Advanced Manufacturing and Corporate Training Center, HCC's newest campus facility that houses Customized Training program, its Small Business Center as well as its industrial systems technology, welding technology and automotive technology programs.

Pictured are the nine WestRock apprentices who completed the program on April 22, 2022: Alex Barnes, Scott Borrell, Tyler Floyd, Zach Isles, Zach Lyons, Tony Marshall, Cole Phelps, Wes Shearin and Jeremy Stewart. Also pictured, far left, is HCC Acting President Dr. David Forester, ApprenticeshipNC Consultant Tony McKnight; and far right, HCC Customized Training Director Rhonda High and HCC Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Jeffrey Fields.

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Halifax Community College's Mission

Halifax Community College strives to meet the diverse needs of our community by providing high-quality, accessible and affordable education and services for a rapidly changing and globally competitive marketplace.

Halifax Community College is an equal opportunity institution and welcomes students and employees without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability.