Florida Plans for the Biggest Manufacturing DAY/Month Celebration on Oct. 2

Statewide Industry Tours & Events Planned for 2015 Manufacturing Day/Month

FLATE, the Florida-based, National Science Foundation Regional Center of Excellence in Manufacturing, in conjunction with Regional Manufacturers Associations (RMAs), Florida TRADE and the Manufacturers Association of Florida are working together to plan for the biggest Manufacturing DAY/Manufacturing Month ever which will kick start on October 2. As part of the fourth, annual Manufacturing Day/Month celebrations, FLATE along with its network of statewide partners will launch a multi-pronged, statewide outreach campaign that is poised to position Florida as a national leader for hosting and organizing Manufacturing Day industry tours and events. As part of this effort, middle and high school students and educators across Florida will participate in Made in Florida industry tours that are designed to showcase, educate and heighten students’, educators’ and the community’s knowledge about educational opportunities and high-skill careers in high-tech manufacturing.

Majority of the Made in Florida industry tours for Manufacturing Day will take place across Florida on October 2 with additional industry tours planned throughout October. Additionally, FLATE will once again take the lead in surveying statewide industry hosts, educators and students who participate in the Made in Florida industry tours. Post event survey results will be tabulated by FLATE and shared with statewide partners and stakeholders. FLATE will also help connect regional groups together, and will design/distribute shirts, provide educator resources, write/publish/distribute and report on MFG Day/month related news, and compile all student, educator, host survey data.

There are several ways and opportunities for industry, RMAs, school districts, educators, students and the community to get involved/engaged in #MFGDay2015. Typically, school districts provide bus transportation; identify programs/classes to attend tours. Regional Manufacturers Associations (RMAs) recruit companies to host student tours on MFG DAY (Oct 2, 2015), or any day in October. Either the school district, or the RMAs, or both – assign schools to tour hosts; set bus schedules; align communications between schools, companies, buses. Local manufacturers host tours and/or provide lunch. Organizations, companies, community groups, individuals, friends of manufacturing etc. help sponsor student MFG DAY t-shirts.

Dr. Marilyn Barger, executive director of FLATE says Manufacturing Day 2015 is geared to stir interest and/or change perceptions about manufacturing on a national
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