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EWI and 180 Skills To Provide Interactive, Online Advanced Training For LIFT Members

*The online content to blend the most advanced methods practiced and taught by EWI
expert engineers with the latest online course modules*

COLUMBUS, Ohio – LIFT – Lightweight Innovations For Tomorrow announced today a partnership with EWI and 180 Skills to provide advanced welding and inspection training to LIFT's members and partners.

The online training, set to launch in the fall of 2017, will combine methods taught and used today by advanced manufacturing professionals with online course modules designed to train and upskill the workforce of today and tomorrow.

For many small or medium sized member companies, easy-to-access, affordable and high quality interactive training does not exist for many new technologies related to lightweighting, which further expands the already wide talent gap in the advanced manufacturing industry which is expected to see 50 percent of its workforce expected to retire over the next two decades.

LIFT is bringing EWI, one of the institute's founding members and a leader in training for new lightweighting technologies, and 180 Skills, a world-class developer of interactive online technical education content, together to design develop and deploy advanced lightweight metal manufacturing technologies, and implement education and training programs to better prepare the workforce of today and tomorrow.

"Workforce development continues to be of paramount importance for the manufacturing industry as the bulk of the workers are nearing retirement age and the technology continues to advance," said James Cruz, engineering manager,

EWI. “The workforce will need expanded training for the skills required for the new and upcoming advanced manufacturing jobs.”

“Providing advanced training is one thing, but putting it online and making it accessible and available to employees at companies of any size, anywhere in the country, is a game changer,” said Emily DeRocco, education and workforce development director, LIFT. “Access to this training is another of the many benefits of becoming a member of LIFT and helping lead the revitalization of manufacturing across the country by working to close the ever-expanding skills gap.”

Online course modules will include nondestructive evaluation (NDE), teaching the most commonly used inspection methods in their industries and the basic fundamentals of arc welding processes for lightweighting applications.

The NDE module will teach commonly used inspection methods including: visual testing; liquid penetrant testing; magnetic particle testing; eddy current testing; ultrasonic testing, and; radiography. The courses will include the basic principles of equipment functionality, and introductions to advanced NDE methods in phased array ultrasonic testing (PAUT) and computed tomography (CT).

ABOUT EWI

EWI is the leading engineering and technology organization in North America dedicated to developing, testing and implementing advanced manufacturing technologies for industry. Since 1984, EWI has provided applied research, manufacturing support, and strategic services to leaders in the aerospace, automotive, consumer products, electronics, medical, energy & chemical, government, and heavy manufacturing industries to deliver premium, game-changing solutions in a competitive global marketplace.

ABOUT LIFT

LIFT is a Detroit-based, public-private partnership committed to the development and deployment of advanced lightweight metal manufacturing technologies, and implementing education and training initiatives to better prepare the workforce today and in the future. LIFT is one of the founding institutes of Manufacturing USA, and is funded in part by the Department of Defense with management through the Office of Naval Research. Visit www.lift.technology or follow on Twitter [@NewsFromLIFT](https://twitter.com/NewsFromLIFT) to learn more.



BUILDING 21ST CENTURY MANUFACTURING TALENT

Online Training Modules for LIFT Members

An Education & Workforce Development Initiative for LIFT...
Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow



THE PROBLEM

The LIFT region, including Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee, is facing a skills gap that is expected to widen by more than 50% in the coming decade. Employers in the region posted 336,166 jobs during 2016 related to advanced manufacturing, and many of these jobs go unfilled due to lack of training for incumbent workers and too few new qualified workers joining the field. In 2015, only 110,247 individuals in the LIFT region completed relevant training for advanced manufacturing jobs. Comparing employer needs to relevant training “completers,” the region currently faces three open jobs per newly trained individual. One way that companies can ameliorate this talent gap is to train their current workforce on new and emerging technologies. Training for new technologies is often expensive and difficult to coordinate, especially for small and medium-sized companies. Easy-to-access, affordable, high-quality training does not exist for many new technologies related to lightweighting. This further expands the already wide talent gap for companies seeking to upskill their current workers.

THE SOLUTION

To address this challenge, LIFT is sponsoring the creation of new online training modules related to lightweighting, in collaboration with EWI and 180Skills, with educational resources available to all LIFT member companies. This collaboration will allow LIFT members to access high-quality training for new lightweighting technologies without excessive cost or the need for workers to travel. Utilizing virtual training developed through LIFT, EWI, and 180Skills, LIFT members will be able to upskill their incumbent and new workers on new technologies, immediately reducing the talent gap they are facing.

- EWI is a recognized leader in training for new lightweighting technologies and provides frequent training classes, both onsite and at customer facilities for advanced welding and inspection technologies related to lightweighting.
- 180Skills develops interactive online technical education content making advanced manufacturing training available to companies of all sizes in all locations across the nation.

DELIVERABLES

Online training modules for LIFT members:

Nondestructive Evaluation for Lightweighting Materials



student contact hours

Fundamentals of Arc Welding for Lightweighting Materials



student contact hours

ABOUT THE PROJECT

EWI will develop key content for several training modules in collaboration with 180Skills.

These include:

MODULE 1: Nondestructive Evaluation

Topics covered include:



Visual Testing



Liquid Penetrant Testing



Magnetic Particle Testing



Eddy Current Testing



Ultrasonic Testing



Radiography

Courses include basic principles, equipment functionality, and an introduction to advanced methods of Phased Array Ultrasonic Testing and Computer Tomography.

MODULE 2: Basic Fundamentals of Arc Welding for Lightweighting Applications

PROJECT LEAD



EWI

EWI is a leading engineering and technology organization in North America dedicated to developing, testing, and implementing advanced manufacturing technologies for industry. EWI provides applied research, manufacturing support, and strategic services to leaders in the aerospace, automotive, consumer products, electronics, medical, energy & chemical, government, and heavy manufacturing industries.

PARTNERS



180 Skills

180 Skills is an online career and technical education experience with a library of over 650 courses and 1,100 hours of education, to enable career seekers to gain the skills they need to attain meaningful employment in the least amount of time.



LIFT members

ALIGNMENT TO LIFT STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS



Creating enhancements
to engineering curriculum using
lightweighting technologies



Offering on-the-job training
solutions for industry partners



Linking and leveraging resources
and related initiatives on the
ground today