

MEDIA ADVISORY

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MAINE MEP CELEBRATES M.O.S.T. TRAINING GRADUATION AT GENERAL DYNAMICS

*Trainees Placed in Skilled Manufacturing Positions at the Company Following
Graduation on Friday, October 12*

Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Maine MEP), in conjunction with the Saco CareerCenter, announces the recent graduates of the M.O.S.T. (Machine Operator Skills Training) program from General Dynamics Armament and Technical Products' Saco Operations, a leading manufacturer and provider of aircraft gun systems, crew-served weapon systems and gun barrels to the men and women of our armed forces in Iraq.

M.O.S.T. is a U.S. Department of Labor pilot program launched in the six New England states. Maine MEP facilitated the two-week long training, with the primary goal of addressing the critical need of local manufacturers to fill a rapidly increasing number of vacant computerized numerical-control (CNC) machine operator positions. M.O.S.T. uses a mobile training unit, equipped with computer terminals and interactive machines, at each company. After completion of the initial two-week training, trainees are interviewed by General Dynamics and enter a 60-day on-the-job training program.

Commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor, Laura Fortman, will be a featured guest at the graduation. Fortman has been instrumental in addressing the shortage of skilled workers in Maine through workforce policies that are helping more adult workers access education and training.

Eleven trainees will graduate from the M.O.S.T. program at General Dynamics on Friday, October 12.

WHO: M.O.S.T. Program Graduates
Laura Fortman, Commissioner, Maine Department of Labor
Garret Oswald, Director, Maine Jobs Council
Richard Fifield, Director, Saco CareerCenter
Elaine Palmitessa, Business Assistance Representative, Saco CareerCenter
Gary LaPerriere, Director of Operations, GDATP Saco
Jerry Devlin, Sr. Human Resources Manager, GDATP Saco
William Sanborn, Manager of Manufacturing Operations, GDATP Saco
Charles Bates, Manager of Staff Development, GDATP Saco
Janet Basile, Sr. Human Resources Specialist
Representative from the Department of Economic and Community
Development

Muriel Mosher, Vice President for Government Relations, Maine MEP
Bob Doiron, Maine MEP, Maine Innovation Program Project Manager,
Maine MEP

WHAT: Graduation from M.O.S.T. program

WHEN: Friday, October 12
11:15 a.m.
Team Room

WHERE: General Dynamics
291 North Street
Saco, Maine

Front row left to right: Paul Mooney, Kent Nguyen, Brenda Prue, David Roy
Back row left to right: Kevin Worden, Evan Amadon, Todd Piepezyk, Don Vaznis, Mark
Roy, Ryan McGrath, Les Kaplan

