

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Petrochemical Manufacturing Companies Partner with Brazosport College for \$956,234 in Job-Training Grants

AUSTIN — Four petrochemical manufacturing companies have partnered with Brazosport College to provide training for 197 new or upgraded jobs using two Skills Development Fund grants totaling \$956,234 from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

The 94 upgraded jobs are included in the \$812,456 grant with a petrochemical consortium comprised of Huntsman EA Holdings LLC, BASF Corp. and Dow Chemical Company. Upon completion of training, precision instrument and equipment repairers will earn an average hourly wage of \$27.29.

The 103 new and upgraded jobs in the \$143,778 grant with ConocoPhillips Company are operators and trade workers. Upon completion of training, workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$26.44.

“TWC makes these grants available each year, helping hundreds of Texas employers and workers succeed,” said TWC Chairman Tom Pauken. “We take pride in the fact that we can continue to provide businesses a ready and skilled workforce.”

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, Skills Development Fund grants created or upgraded 19,689 jobs, which paid an average hourly wage of \$24.29. These grants assisted 148 Texas employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature appropriated \$50 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2008-09 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC Web site at skills.twc.state.tx.us.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the programs it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org