National Center for Supply Chain Automation

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION & INDUSTRY

PROJECT SUMMARY

A nationwide partnership has established the National Center for Supply Chain Automation (SCA). The mission of the Center is to increase the number of highly-skilled supply chain technicians to meet the growing national demand.

The technologies used to support the nation's supply chain are becoming more technologically advanced every day. These new technologies are being implemented to increase production, decrease costs, improve accuracy, and to meet the needs of the e-commerce revolution. The days of shipping full pallets of product to retail outlets are being replaced with single items shipped directly to consumers. This business model is creating new challenges for companies. High-tech inventory control systems and material handling equipment are needed. Ample workforce to maintain these new technologies does not currently exist.

Currently, supply chain technicians and mechanics are estimated to number nearly 2.4 million across all industries in the U.S and are projected to grow by 11% by 2025. In addition to the new growth, companies are expected to replace about 22% of their current supply chain technician workforce, thus creating about 770,000 total technician-level job openings (both new and replacement) in the next 10 years (2015-2025). Supply chain technician wages in the U.S. vary by region, but workers with the most experience and years on the job can earn up to $42 per hour.

The Center has 4 major objectives:

1. Implement model 2+2 supply chain automation career pathways through high school and community college partnerships nationally to meet the need for educated technicians.
2. Establish a national symposium for supply chain automation stakeholders
3. Disseminate deliverables and information to educators, industry and current and potential supply chain technicians.
4. Establish and promote stackable national industry certifications for supply chain automation.

The Center is led by Norco College (Norco, California) and includes Sinclair Community College (Dayton, Ohio), Oakton Community College (Des Plaines, Illinois) and Central Piedmont Community College (Charlotte, North Carolina) as partners.

To learn more about SCA, visit www.supplychainautomation.com

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