

Endress+Hauser's new Customer Center opens its doors to STEM educators, students and the community to inspire young engineers and help fill the skills gap

June 26, 2014 marks the grand opening of Endress+Hauser's \$16M, state-of-the-art Customer Center and kicks off the 1st Annual Community Career+Education Forum for students

GREENWOOD, IN— **Thursday, June 26, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, Endress+Hauser will celebrate the **grand opening** of a new 80,000-square-foot Customer Center located at 2355 Endress Place in Greenwood, Indiana. This \$16 million investment in Endress+Hauser's infrastructure aids to the long-term health of the community placing the economy, workforce development, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education and advanced manufacturing at the cornerstone of this initiative.

Endress+Hauser's new Customer Center will not only serve its customers in the process automation industry all across the United States but it will also serve as a resource to help educate the community on what manufacturing looks like today, the importance of STEM related education programs, and the types of careers and opportunities that exist in advanced manufacturing.

Today, market demands for skilled workers in technical fields such as engineering far outpaces graduation rates and entry into the U.S. manufacturing workforce. With the departure of the Baby Boomer Generation (Born 1946 -1964) from the workplace, this has brought about a serious need for new graduates in STEM related fields and emphasized the need to better develop the next generation of workers – the Millennial Generation (Born 1980 -1995) and our upcoming middle school-aged students, GenEdgers (Born 1996 - Present).

Over the course of the next 20 years, 10,000 Baby Boomers will reach age 65 and will be retiring or departing from the workplace. This equates to approximately 400,000 years of experience being lost per day¹.

In an effort to collaboratively address issues around talent, retention and attraction, Endress+Hauser, in partnership with Central Nine Career Center has launched an innovative initiative aimed at middle school students, their parents and STEM educators in nine school districts in Johnson County and southern Marion County.

"STEM related careers have become a focal point in K-12, as well as post-secondary education. It is imperative that we at Central Nine Career Center work closely with private sector employers such as Endress+Hauser to make sure our students have not only been exposed to STEM careers, but have the background necessary to move into those careers," said Dr. David Edds, Director of Central Nine Career Center. "We are excited to be a part of the 1st Annual Community Career+Education Forum for Students that will be held on June 26th. This will serve as an important launch point to help students and parents understand the importance of STEM career exploration."

The applicant pool is shrinking for STEM related careers. As of 2008, 1 in 4 STEM degree holders in the workforce were 50 or older. In the United States alone, there will be a need for about 400,000 new graduates in STEM related fields by the year 2015. More than 1 million science and technology related jobs will become open this year – but there will only be 200,000 new graduates with the skills necessary to fill them².

"It is critical that we, as employers and leaders in the industry, work alongside schools and partner with our local community educators to encourage the highest quality science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education," said Todd Lucey, General Manager of Endress+Hauser Sales Center USA. "There needs to be more financial investments made by community employers that enable educators to better train students at the grade-school level in problem-based learning that provides more hands-on opportunities for solving real problems, using critical thinking and that inspires innovation around STEM."

As one of the largest instrument manufacturers in the industrial automation industry, Endress+Hauser sees it as the responsibility of its company and the community to lead the way in developing the talent pipeline to help address these talent concerns around STEM and feels that other local manufacturers should do the same.

“Many students, parents and educators are unaware of the exciting career opportunities that exist right here in their own backyard,” said Brandyn Ferguson, Vice President of Human Resources at Endress+Hauser Sales Center USA. “As an example, many of these kids and their parents believe they need to go elsewhere to find a job in the engineering field.”

In fact, manufacturing supports 17.4 million U.S. jobs and the annual average salary of a manufacturing worker averages more than \$77K. Manufacturing career opportunities include engineers, designers, machinists, computer programmers and so much more³.

For this reason, on **Thursday, June 26, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**, Endress+Hauser, in partnership with **Central Nine Career Center**, will host a **1st Annual Community Career+Education Forum** for students at its newly opened, state-of-the-art Customer Center in conjunction with Aspire Johnson County, Ivy Tech Community College (Franklin Campus), Purdue University – College of Technology and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

The 1st Annual Community Career+Education Forum is supported by Aspire Johnson County and directly reflects initiatives launched by the group whose goals are to make Johnson County *the* destination to live, work, and play. Aspire Johnson County, a program of Johnson County Development Corporation, is partially funded by the Johnson County Community Foundation, and is comprised of a large diverse group of stakeholders from across the county.

A number of local manufactures will also be participating in this Forum that will illustrate diversity in the manufacturing sector and showcase the various kinds of manufacturing opportunities available in the local community such as American Industrial Corporation, Caterpillar[®] Remanufacturing (Cat Reman), Electro-Spec, Inc., Heartland Machine & Engineering, Major Tool & Machine, Inc., Nachi, NSK Corporation, Rockwell Automation, Stratus Technologies and VisualEdge, Inc.

FIRST[®] Robotics – whose mission is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership – will also be participating as well as *FIRST*[®] Tech Challenge (FTC[®]), *FIRST*[®] LEGO[®] League (FLL[®]) and several local *FIRST*[®] high school teams including Team 1529, CyberCards Robotics (Southport High School), Team 1741, Red Alert Robotics (Center Grove High School) and Team 234, Cyber Blue Robotics (Perry Meridian High School).

Special remarks from Endress+Hauser, Central Nine Career Center and the Center for Education and Career Innovation (CECI) will begin at **7:00 p.m.** The Forum will also feature a variety of career and education information booths, manufacturing facility tours, live demonstrations, a complimentary pizza dinner, tons of giveaways and door prizes plus much more.

Recent coverage on INside Indiana Business, (i) on Education segment with Gerry Dick:
<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/default.asp>

Learn more about the CCEF: <http://www.us.endress.com/en/newsroom/Community-career-education-forum>

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About Endress+Hauser in the U.S.

Endress+Hauser is one of the largest privately owned process automation company globally and the largest privately owned instrument manufacturers in the United States' industrial automation industry – specializing in automation

solutions for the chemical, food and beverage, oil and gas, water and wastewater, life sciences, power and energy, primaries and metals, and pulp and paper industries. Endress+Hauser, a Switzerland based company, first began operations in the U.S. in 1970. Since that time, Endress+Hauser has continued to invest in its U.S. operations - investing an average of 10% of its annual revenue into its infrastructure. Between the years of 2012-2014, Endress+Hauser will have invested over \$40 million into their U.S. operations alone - located right here in Greenwood, IN. A leading employer, Endress+Hauser was named one of the 2013 Best Places to Work in Indiana in the large companies category (250-999 U.S. employees) by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. For more information about Endress+Hauser, please visit www.us.endress.com.

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1. Measurement Control Automation Association (MCAA), MCAA Forum, Charting Your Course for Success When Generations Connect, May 19, 2014

2. Liveris, Andrew N. Make it In America-the Case for Re-Inventing the Economy. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Print.

3. National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Association of Manufacturers, The Manufacturing Institute, National Science Foundation, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis