

Southern States Millwrights boost training capabilities

Southern States Millwright Regional Council

The Southern States Millwright Regional Council (SSMRC) continues to ramp up training capabilities in order to continue meeting customer needs of skilled millwrights for projects across 11 southern U.S. states.

In Austin, Texas, a new \$7.5 million, 27,000-square-foot training facility opened in April. In Savannah, Ga., work is progressing to build a 12,500-square-foot training facility. Both include a large millwright training shop that delivers the hallmark training curriculum all Southern States Millwrights train by, in order to deliver a work product that is fast, accurate and safe.

Specifically, classes are being added that are geared toward the region, such as advanced compressor and alignment training. The six primary training facilities of the SSMRC are now training members with VibrAlign lasers.

The new Ficturlaser NXA Pro from VibrAlign is a laser-based shaft alignment tool that utilizes the latest technology in digital signal processing, as well as other innovations, to provide faster and even more intuitive operation but with advanced functions and capabilities. Millwrights across the council's 11-state area are actively training on the VibrAlign lasers so they can meet customer demands for precision alignment to the correct tolerances for horizontal, vertical and flanged-mounted machines, machine trains of multiple units and spacer shafts.

And at the Carpenters International Training Center in Las Vegas, a new Mechatronics technician program is underway to accommodate needs in the automation industry for millwrights trained in this skill. Mechatronics is a blend of mechanical, electronic, computing and other technical skills. The field has expanded rapidly as robotics takes hold in manufacturing plants.

"Training is at the heart of this effort to fill the jobs that are coming in the next few years. Our ability to train and the versatility we offer because of that instruction, creates a pool of productive, safety-oriented millwrights our customers require," said Dennis Donahou, SSMRC executive secretary-treasurer.

This high level of training is producing measurable results. One example is found in Arkansas. Each year "Engineering News Record" compiles a list of the "Best of the Best" projects in 19 categories that "identify the pinnacle of design and construction achievement in the United States." The 2013 winners were selected out of 700 projects completed between July 2012 and June 2013.

In the category of Energy/Industrial Project, the John W. Turk, Jr., Power Plant project in Fulton, Ark., emerged as the winner. Fueling that project since its inception have been millwrights from the SSMRC. In fact, council reports show SSMRC millwrights completed their work

significantly ahead of schedule throughout the project. Millwrights worked on all plant elements, including pulverizers, motors, gear boxes and induction fans.

"The most effective way to service our customers is to make sure the contractors they are relying upon to complete their

work have access to a deep pool of productive, safe, skilled millwrights," Donahou said. "And training is our top priority to meet that goal."

For more information, visit www.southernstatesmillwrights.org or call (479) 967-0639.

One call. 5,000 Solutions.

More than 5,000 highly skilled, experienced, productive millwrights are just a phone call away. From Texas to Florida, from Louisiana to the Carolinas, the Southern States Millwright Regional Council has professionals who are trained, certified, and properly credentialed to work on your project.

Our priorities? Safety and Productivity.

Your ROI? Work that's done quickly and properly - keeping the work on schedule.



Our goal is to keep our employers and their job sites supplied with the best-trained, most highly qualified millwrights in the industry. And we meet that goal, everyday.

Contact us to learn how we can provide the manpower for your project:



Dennis Donahou
479-967-0639
ddonahou@ssmrc4070.org
www.southernstatesmillwrights.org

Follow us on [facebook](#) | [Linked in](#) | [twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

