

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Dan Tadic, Chair, Hamilton and Region Chapter, Canadian Welding Association

Primary Phone: 905-971-4064

Email: dan_tadic@praxair.com



Canadian Welding Association (CWA) to hold Industry/Education Forum

CWA will be holding an Industry/Education Forum on April 4, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, S. Service Road, Burlington to report on progress to raise \$500,000 for High School Welding Programs

HAMILTON, Ontario/MEDIA ADVISOR/February 16, 2007 - The Canadian Welding Association's Industry/Education Forum is being held to engage industry and education professionals in discussions on how the two can work together for mutual benefit. The CWA believes that by providing better resources and equipment to our teaching institutions, students will become better qualified to make immediate contributions to industry upon graduation and so, have enhanced employment opportunities waiting for them.

The CWA will report on the progress made to raise \$500,000 for area high school welding programs. Forum presenters include:

- High School Education: Yvan Paulin, Welding Instructor at Robert Bateman High School, will summarize this year's activities of 22 high schools and the support needed from the welding industry.
- Dofasco: John Young, Manager, Learning and Development Skills Training and Apprenticeship, will provide an overview of Dofasco's apprenticeship program, specifically as it relates to welders, covering such topics as hiring practices, qualifications and the development process.
- Ministry of Education: Aldo Cianfrini, Education Officer, Student Success/Learning, will present information on the newly-launched Specialist High Skills Majors. This innovative program allows students to focus on the knowledge and skills that are of particular importance to an economic sector, and to obtain certifications recognized by these sectors as they work towards completing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- Mohawk College: Cheryl Jensen, Vice-President Technology, Apprenticeship and Corporate Training, will provide an overview of Mohawk's expansion of its Stoney Creek Campus to form the STARRT (Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Research, Resources and Training) Institute. She will outline the purpose of the expansion and how it will contribute to Hamilton's Economic Development strategy, as well as address the looming skilled trades shortage, both locally and provincially.
- Canadian Welding Bureau: Ed Whalen, P.Eng. Vice-President Technical Services, will discuss the Bureau's Ontario Welder Apprenticeship Program and Interprovincial Red Seal Qualifications.

/For further information: Contact Dan Tadic at the Hamilton and Region Chapter of the Canadian Welding Association, at 905-971-4064, or by email to dan_tadic@praxair.com, or by mail to P.O. Box 43554, 180 James Street South Hamilton ON L8P 4V0. The Chapter is connecting high school welding programs with welding industry suppliers and manufacturers to help align the school's welding equipment and teaching aids with the latest process developments used by the industry.

/To register: Register online for the Industry/Education Forum at www.cwa-acs.org/hamilton.