



ShaleNET[®]

Linking talent to opportunity

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March 2015

ShaleNET Jobs & Training Scorecard

July 1, 2010 - December 2014

Visitors to ShaleNET.org informed on natural gas and oil opportunities	43,654
Total ShaleNET Participants	6,416
Employed to Date	3,677

To subscribe to the newsletter, visit www.shalenet.org

Success Stories:

Chevron Hires Six Navarro College ShaleNET Students

Chevron North America Exploration and Production division's recruiting team recently visited Navarro College for a two day recruiting event which ended in the hiring of six recent ShaleNET graduates.

The recruiters spoke to students in the petroleum technology department. They shared their insights on the industry, expectations as employers and offered invaluable hiring information.

Penn College Joins U.S. Department of Labor in Announcing Apprenticeship Grants



ShaleNET representatives from Penn College of Technology were on hand when the U.S. Department of Labor recently made available \$100 million in grant funding for apprenticeships, announced in the Philadelphia School District by Labor Secretary Thomas Perez.

The grants will expand registered apprenticeships in high-skilled, high-growth industries – including such key areas as healthcare, biotechnology, information technology and energy and advanced manufacturing – through the American Apprenticeship Initiative.

"The energy industry, like so many others, is facing a daunting challenge: how to replace the technical skills being lost through retirement with new, well-trained hires," Tracy Brundage, vice president for workforce development at Penn College of Technology said. "I'm particularly encouraged by the innovative approach taken by the U.S. Department of Labor, educators and trade unions in looking to apprenticeships, a proven model to transfer technical skills from one generation of workers to another, as a means to address this modern-day challenge."

[Read Full Press Release](#)

In the News:

ShaleNET and Act 13 Funds Changing Local Lives

Post-Gazette
February 17, 2015

What it's like to be the Only Woman in the Fracking Fields

The Washington Post
January 20, 2015

Gas Jobs are a Golden Ticket, but some Restrictions Apply

The Washington Post
January 16, 2015

Upcoming Events:

Ohio Oil and Gas Association Winter Meeting

March 11-13, 2015
Columbus, Ohio

Embracing Energy: A Conference for Women

April 14-15, 2015
Oglebay Resort, West Virginia

Rigzone Oil and Gas Targeted Job Fairs

Various locations and dates

Success Stories:

Pierpont Community and Technical College and Alderson Broaddus University Announce Articulation Agreement

During a press conference held on Friday, Jan. 23, 2015, Alderson Broaddus University and Pierpont Community & Technical College announced a joint venture for a major in petroleum management.

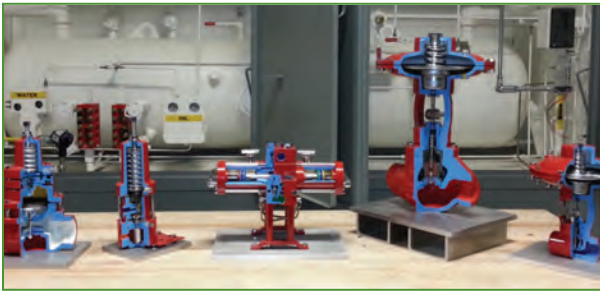
Alderson Broaddus University, working as the degree completion partner, will provide a Bachelor of Science degree to interested students who earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in Petroleum Technology at Pierpont Community & Technical College. Building on the petroleum technology curriculum, graduates will acquire expanded skills and knowledge for success in the management and regulatory practices of the oil and gas industry.

Pierpont President Dr. Doreen Larson was proud to be a part of such a singular event. "What we are doing here today is one of only a handful of such agreements in the entire country. Partnering with a four-year institution, that is willing to accept all of our Applied Technology credits, shows the level of academic rigor of our courses. Our faculty has developed a program that is intensive and will lead to good paying jobs."

[Read the Full Article.](#)

Industry Engagement:

Kimray Donates Valves to Westmoreland County Community College for ShaleNET Well-Site Trainer Program



Kimray Inc., manufacturer of control equipment used extensively in oil and gas production around the world, recently donated six valves to supplement the Westmoreland County Community College (WCCC) ShaleNET program's well-site trainer.

In addition to the valves, Kimray surprised the college with another donation of five cutaway-training units that include four valves and the famous Kimray glycol pump, which was immediately incorporated into the ShaleNET training curriculum. Special thanks to Chris Mencor and Kimray for the donations to the WCCC ShaleNET program.

XTO ENERGY Employees Serve as Industry Instructors for the Westmoreland County Community College ShaleNET Program

XTO Energy employees recently served as adjunct instructors in the Westmoreland County Community College (WCCC) ShaleNET program.

R. Gordan Holloway, area superintendent of the Appalachia Division of XTO Energy, taught a Saturday course, NGT 140 Gas Processing. Along with lecture and lab time, Gordan hosted and coordinated field trips to the XTO gas processing facilities. He provided staff to share their knowledge and experience with ShaleNET students making the field trips a valuable learning event.

In addition to Gordan, XTO Energy Pipeline Integrity Foreman, Midstream Operations, Michael D. Jackson, taught NGT 105 Emergency Response. Safety is the number one focus in the industry. Their immense experience, along with their formal knowledge and hands-on training brought immense value to the ShaleNET program.



Hub News:

Stark State's Relocated Downtown Canton Satellite Center Opens



Stark State recently opened its Downtown Canton Satellite Center at its new downtown location. The \$8.2 million satellite center, located in the former Cornerstone II building, sits adjacent to the college's new Well Site Training Center that opened in August.

The \$8.2 million satellite center, consolidates Stark State's campuses at Timken and the Southeast Community Center into a central location and it places its support services and core classes adjacent to the college's new Well Site Training Center. "It's a one-stop shop," said Cindy Putman, satellite coordinator. "We can help with just about everything here. ... It keeps (students) from having to go to the main campus because for a lot of our students that can be daunting."

One of the first-floor lecture classrooms is attached to a smaller space that contains a simulator for commercial driver's license training that looks like the driver's seat of a construction vehicle with three large video screens in front of it.

[Read the Full Article.](#)

Penn College Hosts Internationals Interested in Replicating ShaleNET

Recently, the ShaleNET team at Penn College of Technology hosted representatives from Azerbaijan to learn more about ShaleNET, tour the natural gas and oil training facilities, and explore opportunities to replicate the program in their home country. The College also welcomed representatives from the United Kingdom which views ShaleNET as a promising workforce practice for their burgeoning onshore oil and gas shale play. In addition to these countries, delegations from Kenya, Vietnam, Mexico, Ukraine, Poland, India, and Pakistan have either toured ShaleNET-Penn College or have conducted serious exploratory conversations on bringing the ShaleNET training model to their country. These representatives are from oil and natural gas employers, educational institutions, financial companies, and research foundations.

ShaleNET is attractive as a workforce training model because it can be tailored to meet the specific workforce needs of a region while adhering to a core set of instructional principles that focus on job readiness, safety, and technical proficiency. The end result is a candidate with multiple industry-recognized certifications who is prepared to work in oil and gas industry anywhere in the world.

Student Spotlight:



Matt Hutchinson

Traditional students are typically defined as having recently graduated from high school and are enrolled full-time in their course of study. Students who enroll in ShaleNET tend to be slightly older, many have had previous careers or military experience, some have families but all have seen the immense opportunity that exists in the oil and gas industry and have identified ShaleNET as a great education and training resource for entry into the field. Matt Hutchinson is a perfect example.

As a traditional student, Matt graduated with a degree in landscape contracting from Ohio State ATI (Agricultural Technical Institute). For years Matt worked in the landscaping industry, bouncing from laborer to project manager to running full operations, but with the cyclical nature of the industry coupled with the realization that without owning your own business there was a ceiling, Matt knew the time had come to move on.

"I took a lay-off and I knew I didn't want to go back to landscaping. A friend of mine was going back to school and recommended ShaleNET," said Matt. "I have to give all the ShaleNET advisors and professors at Stark State College a lot of credit for getting me into the program, reassuring me and providing a support structure that kept me going."

[Continued next page.](#)

Student Spotlight:

Matt Hutchinson (continued)

Matt decided to enroll in ShaleNET's year-long pipeline technician certificate and associate degree program. Midway through his studies he got an internship with Dominion as a corrosion technician and they kept him part-time while he finished up his studies last fall. When he graduated in December, Matt applied to a full-time position. "I graduated on December 15, and began working full-time on December 17!" Matt exclaimed.

In his role as a corrosion technician, Matt monitors infrastructure looking for external corrosion and other quality control issues, making sure the pipelines are within government regulations and troubleshooting any problems.

"Because corrosion is an electrochemical process, my classes in electrical and corrosion were crucial. Dr. Sigmund's electrical course was the best and I knew then, that I had made the right decision," explains Matt.

This summer Matt plans to enroll in ShaleNET's bachelor in Technology and Business Management program offered through another ShaleNET hub, Penn College of Technology which he'll be able to pursue online.

"I love what I do and can see myself in this role for 20-30 years but as the aging workforce continues to retire, I'm hoping my experience and the bachelors degree will open some doors. I'm setting myself up for future opportunity," said Matt. "I just wish I had known then what I know now about the oil and gas industry—that so much opportunity exists, for every skill set and that it's just a matter of getting your foot in the door."

Asked whether it was all worth it, Matt explains, "Within a year, through ShaleNET, I changed careers and got a job that I consider one of the best. In landscaping I felt the ceiling, but in oil and gas, the opportunities are limitless!"

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Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association
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