



South Central Workforce Investment Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCWIB Impact Report Highlights Accomplishments

(Harrisburg, PA)--McClarin Plastics, a Hanover-based manufacturer of large thermoformed and fiberglass-reinforced plastic components, expanded its facilities and doubled its revenue from 2004 to 2006. Their success is the result of an internal transformation initiated to make the contract manufacturer more tech-savvy, skilled and agile in response to changing customer needs during an economic downturn in 2000.

When the economy recovered, McClarin was poised for growth.

Using training and other worker and student focused programs, the company methodically transformed itself in response to changing customer needs and is an example of what the South Central Workforce Investment Board (SCWIB) is accomplishing in the eight-county footprint of south central Pennsylvania to help employers and workers meet growing workforce demands.

“There is no question that impact of the SCWIB is being felt throughout the region. McClarin Plastics is but one example of how private and public partnerships come together through links provided by the SCWIB to build a skilled workforce that will make the region’s employers and workers more competitive and lead to more family-sustaining jobs,” says Terri Kaufman, executive director of the South Central Workforce Investment Board.

The South Central Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board has released a report of its activities in “*2007 Impact Report for the SCWIB: Accomplishing Together What We Cannot Do Individually.*” The report highlights activities and accomplishments that address the need for a highly skilled workforce throughout the eight county region that includes: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry and York counties.

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Additional examples from healthcare, the logistics & transportation industry, and building and construction are included in the *Impact Report*.

The SCWIB reports using \$2.1 million in funding from numerous state and federal resources received during 2006-07 to develop its work with industry partnerships, PA CareerLink, welfare and youth. Highlights include:

- 4,000 training experiences for incumbent and prospective employees
- Impacting more than 500 stakeholders, including nearly 300 South Central Pennsylvania companies
- Connecting with youth, adult learners, jobseekers, business-education intermediaries, training & education institutions, non-profits, labor, career & technology centers, community-based organizations and more to engage and address workforce pipeline activities
- More than 4,350 new hires selected through PA CareerLink system
- More than 1,150 welfare job placements in PY 06 – 07 of which 60% of workers were placed in positions that offer medical benefits
- More than 50,000 students impacted through career days, internships and other activities geared to increase awareness of career opportunities.

Mike Smeltzer, executive director, Manufacturers' Association of South Central Pennsylvania, said, "The SC Workforce Investment Board has demonstrated true leadership in providing services that benefit employers and communities throughout the region. Our region is recognized as a model in the country for workforce development that is demand driven."

The 2006-07 Impact Report is available through the web at: www.wibpa.org ; by telephone at: 717-236-7930; or by email at wib@wibpa.org .

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The SCWIB was created to address the need for a highly skilled workforce within the eight-county region including Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry and York counties. The SCWIB is committed to assisting our region's employers and workers with meeting the workforce demands of the future. Development of "career pathways," identification of training and skill gaps, incumbent employee training and outreach to high school students and their teachers are critical components of the SCWIB's work.