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### **2023 NCATC Innovative ATC Workforce Development Award Recipient Announced**

**BIG RAPIDS, MI** – The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC), NOCTI, and Nocti Business Solutions (NBS) are pleased to announce Mr. Dan Stroot of Missouri as this year's recipient of the NCATC Innovative ATC Workforce Development award. The NCATC Innovative ATC Workforce Development Award recognizes outstanding workforce development professionals and industry colleagues who make significant contributions to the education and training of today's advanced technology and manufacturing workforce.

Mr. Dan Stroot serves as a senior manager at The Boeing Company, located in St. Louis, Missouri. Since 2007, St. Louis Community College's Workforce Solutions Group and The Boeing Company have partnered to offer a pre-employment program focused on preparing individuals with the skills and knowledge to become future Boeing employees. Upon completion of the training program, graduates are guaranteed to receive an opportunity to interview with Boeing and receive nine credit hours for participating in the course. Understanding the importance of building the pipeline for the aerospace industry, Mr. Stroot also assisted in developing complementary activities to be offered at high schools and CTE schools. These activities are designed to spark interest in aerospace and encourage students to focus on a lifelong career in this expanding industry. Students can participate in a hands-on demonstration of sheet metal assembler/riveter and composites labs and aerospace. Another flagship program is The Women in Aerospace Manufacturing (WAM) program which offers hands-on experiences to engage women in aerospace manufacturing. WAM is taught by women who have graduated from the pre-employment program and now work for Boeing. Recently, St. Louis Community College and The Boeing Company celebrated over 1,200 program participants hired through the program.

Becky Epps, Manager of the Center for Workforce Innovation at St. Louis Community College, and the individual who nominated Mr. Stroot for the Innovative ATC Workforce Development award said, "Dan's tireless passion for this program is a huge factor in its success." NCATC, NOCTI, and NBS would like to congratulate Mr. Stroot for his contributions to workforce development!



**NOCTI** is the largest provider of industry-based credentials and partner industry association certifications for technical training programs across the nation. The output reports from these credentials can be used to meet Perkins accountability requirements, to guide data-driven instructional improvement, or to assist with college accreditation. NOCTI provides credible solutions through validated and reliable technical skill assessments that meet the standards of quality for credentialing providers (ISO 17024). NOCTI is also a critical component of CTE teacher certification in approximately half of the United States.

**Nocti Business Solutions (NBS)** is a wholly owned subsidiary of NOCTI and was established in 1999 to serve the needs of business and industry in high-stakes competency testing. In addition to serving the needs of business and industry, NBS provides a vital connection between industry and education. NBS' primary products and services include standardized assessments, customized assessment development and delivery, and standard and custom score reporting services for industry, business, military, and municipal settings. As a job skills competency verification company, NBS has extensive experience working with a variety of populations to translate skills-based knowledge into practical work-related gains.

**The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers** is a network of higher education resources that advocates and promotes the use of technology applications that enhance economic and workforce development programs and services. NCATC is focused on increasing the national awareness of ATCs and their positive impact on America's competitive ability and economic growth, developing and facilitating the exchange of workforce development programs among NCATC members, providing a forum for new and emerging technologies to allow ATCs to develop programs and services that reflect the technological landscape, providing a conduit that allows ATCs to access information to optimally assist in the economic business development of their communities, and ensuring that each member is provided support in its development and evolution as an agent of change within its community.